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This picture taken in Modesto, California, shows one of the turkeys selected for a pardon from the Thanksgiving dinner table by President Obama. A class of fifth grade students from nearby Eisenhut Elementary School cheered for their favorite as Foster Farms staffers picked the prized bird. The lucky turkey was selected for a trip to the White House, where President Obama pardoned it Wednesday, November 25, 2015, in an annual tradition. In America, Aruba, and many other places around the world today people give thanks for the things they are most grateful for when they come together for feast, family, fun and tradition as they celebrate Thanksgiving Day. What are you thankful for on this Thanksgiving Day? Happy Thanksgiving from your family at Aruba Today and Caribbean Speed Printers!

(AP Photo/Scott Smith)



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## Obama grants reprieve to turkeys “Honest” and “Abe”



**National Turkey Federation Chairman Jihad Douglas watches at right as President Barack Obama pardons National Thanksgiving Turkey Abe, during a ceremony in the Rose Garden of the White House in Washington, Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2015. This is the 68th anniversary of the National Thanksgiving Turkey presentation.**  
(AP Photo/Evan Vucci)

**KEVIN FREKING**  
**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Barack Obama spared two turkeys named for one of the nation's most admired presidents,

continuing a White House tradition that provides a refreshing sense of amusement and bipartisan cheer no matter how troubled the times. Obama pardoned “Abe,” the 2015

National Thanksgiving Turkey, during a ceremony Wednesday in the Rose Garden. He gobbled right on cue as Obama finished his absolution. Don't fret for “Honest,” though, the sec-

ond bird who was on the grounds but off camera. Both turkeys will get a reprieve from the oven and will spend their remaining days living it up on a nearby Virginia farm. Both birds hail from California, are 18 weeks old and weigh in at about 42 pounds each. The names of the turkeys were chosen from submissions entered by school children in California. Honest has a red face and neck, while Abe's crown features more extensive blue splotches. Obama referred to Abe as TOTUS, or Turkey of the United States. “America is after all a country of second chances and this turkey has earned a second chance to live out the rest of his life comfortably on 1,000 acres of open land complete with a barn called the ‘the White House on Turkey Hill,’ which actually sounds pretty good,” Obama said. George H.W. Bush was the first president to formally pardon a Thanksgiving

turkey, though stories of spared turkeys date back to Abraham Lincoln's presidency. The National Turkey Federation is the turkey supplier for the event. The trade group and others have been providing turkeys for the First Family going back to President Harry Truman, though not all of the birds provided during the years shared a similar reprieve from the White House dinner table.

Obama was accompanied at the event by his daughters, Malia and Sasha. They didn't look thrilled at last year's turkey pardoning, and Obama thanked them for once against standing with him. “They do this solely because it makes me feel good, not because they actually think that this is something I should be doing,” Obama said.

After the ceremony, the Obama family is volunteering at a community service project in Washington. □

## Cheap gas fueling expanded US Thanksgiving travel day

**J. PRITCHARD**  
**Associated Press**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — An expanded version of the annual Thanksgiving travel saga in the U.S. has begun with gas prices low and fears of an attack by extremists high.

An estimated 46.9 million Americans are expected to take a car, plane, bus or train at least 50 miles from home over the long holiday weekend, according to the motoring organization AAA. That would be an increase of more than 300,000 people over last year, and the most travelers since 2007.

Among the reasons given for the increase: an improving economy and the cheapest gasoline for this time of year since 2008. On Tuesday, some travelers were gearing up for an early exit.

Fanni Farago, 26, of Tempe, Arizona, sat in the Albuquerque, New Mexico, airport with her sister Flora Farago, 30, while waiting for their parents to arrive

from Dallas. The family was planning on driving to the mountain resort of Red River, New Mexico to revive a family Thanksgiving tradition.

“My parents warned us about the travel warning so we decide to get started early,” Fanni Farago. “And since it's so cheap to drive, we are going to rent a car to go up to Red River.”

Anyone trekking to a major airport should factor in 50 extra minutes on the road, according to the traffic data company INRIX — and that's just getting to the airport, never mind getting through security.

Though there have been no changes to the nation's terror alert status, the recent attacks in Paris, West Africa and elsewhere prompted the U.S. State Department to warn American travelers about the risks overseas.

On Tuesday, the head of the Transportation Security Administration, Peter Nefenger, said that the U.S.



**Security personnel watch as travelers walk past at LaGuardia Airport in New York, Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2015. An expanded version of America's annual Thanksgiving travel saga was under way Wednesday with gas prices low and terrorism fears high. An estimated 46.9 million Americans are expected to take a car, plane, bus or train at least 50 miles from home over the long holiday weekend, according to the motoring organization AAA.** (AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

has the world's best aviation security and assured the public that TSA is “taking every measure to protect the millions of air travelers in the coming weeks.” At the Phoenix airport, Teri Robert said the notion of

flying from Arizona to West Virginia to see family gave her pause, but in the end she decided she had to go.

“I'm not going to let the terror alerts and things stop me, because then they

win,” she said.

Airfares have increased just 69 cents on average since last year, according to the Airlines Reporting Corp., which processes ticket transactions for airlines and travel agencies. □



# Obama: No credible intelligence about plot against US

JULIE PACE

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Barack Obama said there is currently no “specific and credible” intelligence indicating a terrorist plot against the United States, as he sought to reassure anxious Americans ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Speaking at the White House on Wednesday, Obama said it was understandable that Americans might be nervous following the Nov. 13 attacks in Paris, which killed 130 people and wounded hundreds more. While he encouraged Americans to remain vigilant, he urged people to go about their normal activities.

“While the threat of terrorism is a troubling reality of our age, we are both equipped to prevent attacks and we are resilient in the face of those who would try to do us harm,” Obama said. “And that’s something we can all be thankful for.”

Obama spoke after a briefing with his national security team, including FBI

Director James Comey, Attorney General Loretta Lynch, Homeland Security Director Jeh Johnson and his national security adviser, Susan Rice.

The president has faced criticism for his initial response to the Paris attacks, particularly his focus on chiding Republicans who called on him to be more aggressive in fighting the Islamic State, the extremist group believed to be behind the deadly assault in France.

Obama was also sharply critical of lawmakers who backed legislation that would effectively keep refugees from Syria and Iraq, where the Islamic State is based, from coming to the U.S.

He shifted his focus Wednesday to Americans who may worry that the attacks in Paris, which took place at restaurants, a concert venue and a sports stadium, could be replicated in the U.S.

“I know that Americans have been asking each other whether it’s safe here, whether it’s safe to fly or gather,” he said. □



President Barack Obama, flanked by Attorney General Loretta Lynch, left, and Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson, speaks in the Roosevelt Room of the White House in Washington, Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2015, to brief the public on the nation’s homeland security posture heading into the holiday season, following meeting with his national security team.

(AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

## Obama signs defense policy bill despite Guantanamo provision

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Barack Obama on Wednesday signed a \$607 billion defense policy bill despite his opposition to restrictions in the legislation that ban him from moving Guantanamo Bay detainees to the United States and making good on a long unfulfilled campaign promise.

Obama has opposed provisions preventing detainee transfers since Congress first attached the measures to spending bills in an attempt to block Obama’s plans. The dispute has taken on added intensity this year because the White House has launched a final push to close the prison before Obama leaves office.

In a statement, Obama said the bill “includes vital benefits for military personnel and their families, authorities to facilitate on-

going operations around the globe, and important reforms to the military retirement system” as well as other measures.

He added, however, that he is “deeply disappointed that the Congress has again failed to take productive action toward closing the detention facility at Guantanamo.” Keeping the prison open, Obama said, “is not consistent with our interests as a Nation and undermines our standing in the world.”

The White House and the Pentagon are preparing to send to Congress a plan outlining more precisely how it would shutter the prison and where in the U.S. might transfer detainees. The proposal, however, was not expected to overcome sizable opposition among Republicans and some Democrats. □

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# Man convicted of killing wife; posted Facebook photo of body



Derek Medina, is led out of the courtroom after he was found guilty of second-degree murder, Wednesday Nov. 25, 2015 in Miami. Medina, who killed his wife and posted a photo of the bloody corpse on Facebook, was convicted after failing to convince a jury that he shot her eight times in self-defense.

(Walter Michot/The Miami Herald via AP, Pool)



## Thanksgiving Dinner Buffet at the Islander Grill

### Soup

Cream of Pumpkin with Crème Fraîche.

### Salad Station

Harvest Salad with Apple Cider Dijon Vinaigrette | Heart of Palm Salad with Crumbled Blue Cheese | Tomato & Cucumber Salad | Roasted Carrots | Pumpkin and Shaved Toasted Almond Salad | Candied Pecan Nuts | Dinner Rolls | Cornbread & Butter.

### Hot Station

Fresh Berries Glazed Ham | Red Skin Garlic Mashed Potato | Oven Roasted Pumpkin | Roasted Seasonal Vegetables with Basil Pesto | Candied Yams | Chef's Special Apple Bread Stuffing

### Carving Station

Herb Roasted Turkey with Giblet Gravy Sauce and Cranberry Sauce.

### Desserts

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### CURT ANDERSON

AP Legal Affairs Writer

**MIAMI (AP)** — A Florida man who killed his wife and posted a photo of the bloody corpse on Facebook was convicted Wednesday of second-degree murder after failing to convince a jury that he shot her eight times in self-defense.

The jury verdict came in the third week of Derek Medina's trial in the August 2013 killing of 27-year-old Jennifer Alfonso at their Miami home. Medina told police in a videotaped statement he shot his wife during an altercation in which she threatened him with a knife.

Medina, who did not testify in his own defense, admitted in the police statement taking a cellphone photo of his dead wife's body and uploading it on Facebook, along with a posting that said he expected to go to prison but was forced to kill her following years of physical abuse.

Prosecutors put on evidence indicating that Medina had vowed to kill Alfonso if she tried to leave him, which she told friends she planned to do. They also pointed out that at 6 feet (1.83 meters) and about 200 pounds (91 kilograms), Medina could have easily overpowered his 5-foot-6 wife (1.68 meters) without shooting her. Alfonso's mother, Carolyn Knox, burst into tears when the verdict was read after

about six hours of jury deliberation over two days. She declined comment to reporters. Medina's father, also named Derek Medina, would not comment.

Medina showed absolutely no emotion as he was handcuffed and led back to jail, where he has been held since the killing. His attorney, Saam Zangeneh, said there will be an appeal.

The second-degree murder conviction means that Medina, 33, faces a sentence of 25 years to life in prison.

"No family should ever have to see their daughter killed and then exhibited worldwide on the Internet like some macabre trophy to a husband's anger as was Jennifer Alfonso," Rundle said.

Trial testimony showed the couple began fighting in their upstairs bedroom because Medina had failed to wake up his wife early that morning to watch a movie, as he had promised. Investigators testified that Alfonso threw mascara containers and towels at Medina, who pointed a gun at her in the bedroom but did not fire.

In a text message to a friend that morning, Alfonso said she "felt like ripping his face off" and was "about to explode" because of Medina's actions and added she just wanted more attention.

"I just want to spend time with him but I'm not going to beg," she wrote shortly before her death.

Later, the altercation continued in the downstairs kitchen — some of it captured on one of the home's interior surveillance cameras. Medina told police Alfonso pulled a large kitchen knife on him and that he was able to disarm her, then went back upstairs for the gun and shot his wife when she kept fighting with her fists. A medical examiner, however, testified that the eight shots were all fired downward toward Alfonso and that the position of her body on the kitchen floor indicated she had been cowering on her knees when killed. □



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## Protesters to target Chicago shopping area on Black Friday

**DON BABWIN**  
**Associated Press**

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Small groups of demonstrators gathered again Wednesday to protest the death of a black teen shot by a white police officer, and they urged supporters to join them in trying to shut down Chicago's famous Michigan Avenue shopping district on Black Friday, one of the busiest shopping days of the year. About two dozen protesters gathered outside Mayor Rahm Emanuel's City Hall office on the day after authorities released a graphic squad-car video showing the officer shooting 17-year-old Laquan McDonald 16 times. The officer, Jason Van Dyke, was charged with first-degree murder.

The group held banners showing photos of other black people fatally shot by police in Chicago and elsewhere. Several protesters said they were parents of black men who were killed by Chicago officers. "You cannot kill our children and expect us to be quiet any longer," protester Quovadis Green said. "It is unacceptable."

A number of police killings of black men over the past year have given rise to the



**Lamon Reccord, second from right, yells at a Chicago police officer "Shoot me 16 times" as he and others march through Chicago's Loop Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2015, one day after murder charges were brought against police officer Jason Van Dyke in the killing of 17-year-old Laquan McDonald, in Chicago.** (AP Photo/Charles Rex Arbogast)

nationwide "Black Lives Matter" movement, pushing the issue to prominence in the midst of the 2016 presidential campaign.

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton weighed in Wednesday, saying McDonald's family and Chicago residents "deserve justice and accountability."

Clinton, who made the comments Wednesday in an emailed statement,

added that police officers across the country are doing their duty honorably "without resorting to unnecessary force."

One of Clinton's rivals, Sen. Bernie Sanders, said in his own statement that all Americans "should be sickened" by the video.

Activist Mark Carter called on people to "rise up" and shut down the Magnificent Mile shopping area on Friday — the day after the Thanksgiving holiday when

shoppers traditionally flock to stores to take advantage of discounts. He said protesters also planned to target the Board of Trade and other landmarks in the coming days.

Carter and others want the Department of Justice to investigate the Chicago Police Department and its history of covering up bad behavior.

The Urban League of Chicago joined in the call for a federal investigation, al-

leging a pattern of "discriminatory harassment" against black people.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson, a prominent civil rights activist, said other officers involved in McDonald's death should be fired or at least suspended. He also wants a special prosecutor appointed to the case, complaining that Cook County State's Attorney Anita Alvarez took too long to bring a murder charge in the shooting, which happened 13 months ago.

For months, city officials and community leaders had feared that the release of the dash-cam video could provoke the kind of turmoil that occurred in cities such as Baltimore and Ferguson, Missouri, after young black men were slain by police or died in police custody.

The relevant portion of the footage runs for less than 40 seconds and has no audio. McDonald swings into view on a four-lane street where police vehicles are stopped in the middle of the roadway. As he jogs down an empty lane, he appears to pull up his pants and then slows to a brisk walk, veering away from two officers who are emerging from a vehicle and drawing their guns. □

## At funeral for slain Minneapolis man, vow to keep protesting

**Associated Press**

**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)** — Hundreds of people filled a north Minneapolis church on Wednesday to pay their respects to a man whose death in a confrontation with police sparked more than a week of ongoing protests, as charges were pending against four men suspected in a melee that left five protesters with gunshot wounds. A picture

of a smiling Jamar Clark adorned the program for his funeral at the cavernous Shiloh Temple International Ministries. Inside, his obituary said the 24-year-old man "liked to swim, fish, listen to music, play basketball, be with family and take trips to Charlotte, North Carolina." Impassioned speeches from his relatives and pastors were occasionally interrupted by shouts and

applause. The service also included a slideshow of pictures of Clark as he grew up. Several members of Clark's family wore white T-shirts that read, "I matter," on the front with Clark's picture on the back. "I'm still hurt," said his sister, Sharice Burns. "I'm still suffering. We need justice sooner rather than later." Clark, who was black, died Nov. 15 in what police say was a scuffle

with officers responding to an assault of a woman in which he was a suspect. Some community members who say they saw the incident allege Clark was handcuffed when he was shot, which police have disputed. A state criminal investigation and a federal civil rights probe are underway. Police treatment of black men has become a major issue in the U.S. in the

aftermath of killings in Ferguson, Missouri, South Carolina and in New York City. Bishop Richard Howell praised protesters for pressure that he said helped get a federal civil rights investigation and the names of the officers involved. Howell said what's needed now is a special state legislative session to address the needs of Minnesota's minority community. □



## American Holiday:

# A Thanksgiving Table With Plenty of Emotional Room

**J. CONLIN  
(FILE)**

Living as I do with my parents, older brother, husband and two youngest children, I have to say that most Sunday evenings in our multigenerational home seem a lot like Thanksgiving. Sunday tends to be the night I cook a big dinner, as my older sister who lives nearby usually comes over that evening, as does a cousin or two and the odd visitor from out of town.

As a result, I know a lot about how to survive the family dynamics of a mega-meal like the one happening for nearly everyone today. Here are a few tips garnered from four consecutive years of group dining.

### COOKING

Collective cooking is supposed to be fun, but let's be honest: It's not. Anyone who really loves to cook, like me, is a bit of a dictator in the kitchen.

Sharing counter space and cutting boards with helpful family members does not make preparing a meal easier for me; it makes it far more difficult. How am I supposed to mix just the right amount of cream into my mashed potatoes if I also have to keep an exacting eye on the amount of rock salt my mother is sprinkling over the brussels sprouts?

My best Thanksgiving meals were made during our years overseas, when I had no extended family around telling me how to roast the turkey or make the stuffing, and I was able to bar all guests from my kitchen. But then, when I looked around the table and there were no faces (other than those

of my children) that looked like parts of mine, I would feel very sad.

That said ... when it comes to relatives, you have no choice but to allow people to lend a stirring hand, particularly as everyone wants to gather in the kitchen (no matter how small) rather

Once you seat more than five people around one table, which is a regular occurrence here, chaos normally ensues. That is why I like to assign seating (the dictator in me again), which forces people (particularly the children) to have conversations with

be surprised at what good conversationalists 10-year-olds can be if you actually take the time to talk to them. The one exception being the time I was seated next to a child in Paris who only wanted to discuss her "extreme head lice" condition.

tracking through our dialogue. Last week, when he thought we said "bayonet" rather than "badminton," it led to a far more interesting historical discussion about military arms than we would have ever had about racket sports.

### CLEANUP JOB

There is a wonderfully polite way the British describe someone who has had too much to drink at a party. He or she will be called "tired and emotional," and then promptly taken home or, at the very least, retired to a nearby bedroom.

Though sipping a lovely cabernet can ease the preparation pain in the kitchen, do not drink too much and become "tired and emotional," as we all know that mixing alcohol with relatives can spur festering anger. This is another good reason to seat adults next to children, particularly when it comes to breaking up siblings with a bad history.

If a conflict does appear to be rearing its head, and you are a part of it, simply retire to the kitchen for a few minutes, as I do, and get a head start on the vast cleanup of this gelatinous meal. Though it would be wonderful if everyone helped clean up while dancing, like in "The Big Chill" after-dinner scene, it is truly unlikely (and not the most efficient way to clean up a kitchen anyway).

This year, I will be away for the holidays, on a trip with my husband and children. I have to admit, though, I feel a bit guilty about leaving my parents behind. What will they do without me in charge? Have a splendidly relaxed time, I fear. □



Theresa Starta and her family host guests from other countries at their home in Dubai, serving a traditional turkey dinner on Thanksgiving and sharing the history of each dish.

(Christina Lundgren/Theresa Starta via AP).

than in the living room (no matter how big).

What I have finally learned is to just give in. Sipping a glass of wine while my sister chops the carrots into circles, rather than my preferred matchstick shape, always helps take the edge off.

And if everyone wants Stove Top stuffing rather than my homemade pork-and-sage dressing, so be it. Remember: It is supposed to be about the togetherness of your family, not the thickness of your gravy.

### CONVERSATION

those they normally would not.

Kid's tables, I believe, are a bad idea, as the younger ones will hang out before and after the meal anyway. The best way for children to learn how to behave at a dinner party is to seat them with adults (unless the adults don't know how to behave, either).

In Europe, children routinely eat with their parents and their friends at formal meals, and even more important, they eat the same food as their parents. So I say mix it up - you may

On the other hand, talking to the oldest members at the table can be trying, particularly if they are suffering from hearing loss, like my father. Keeping him abreast of the conversation, my family has learned all too well, is increasingly difficult, as he is constantly hearing something different than what we have actually said.

So now, we just automatically shift the conversation to whatever topic he thinks we are discussing. It is far less frustrating than trying to catch him up by back-

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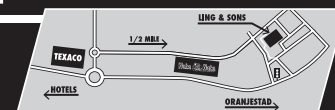
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## List of stores open on Thanksgiving Day and/or Black Friday

**NEW YORK (AP)** — After the turkey and stuffing comes the kickoff of the holiday shopping season. And even though most retailers are offering the same deals online, many still plan to open their doors on Thanksgiving Day or in the early morning hours of Black Friday. So if you prefer to pick up those discounted TVs, toys and other goods in person, here's a partial list of what time stores are open on Thanksgiving and Black Friday:

### — Discount Stores

#### **TARGET**

Thanksgiving: Opens 6 p.m. and stays open all night into Black Friday.

#### **KMART**

Thanksgiving: Opens 7 p.m. and stays open all night into Black Friday.

#### **WAL-MART**

Thanksgiving: Deals start at 6 p.m.

### — Department Stores

#### **JC PENNEY**

Thanksgiving: Opens 3 p.m. and stays open all night into Black Friday.

#### **KOHL'S**

Thanksgiving: Opens 6 p.m. and stays open all night into Black Friday.

#### **MACY'S**

Thanksgiving: Opens 6 p.m. and stays open all night into Black Friday.

#### **SEARS**

Thanksgiving: Opens 6 p.m. and closes 2 a.m. Friday  
Black Friday: Opens 5 a.m.

### — Electronic Stores

#### **BEST BUY**

Thanksgiving: Opens 5 p.m. and closes 1 a.m. Friday  
Black Friday: Opens 8 a.m.

#### **GAMESTOP**

Thanksgiving: Closed  
Black Friday: Opens 5:00 a.m.

#### **HHGREGG**

Thanksgiving: Opens 4 p.m. and closes 12 a.m. Friday  
Black Friday: Open 7am. □

## US Financial Front:

## Mall stores must open on Thanksgiving but expect to be busy

JOYCE M. ROSENBERG

AP Business Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Some big retailers face scrutiny for opening on Thanksgiving, but many small stores have no choice.

Take jeweler Jerry Amerosi, who has three stores in New York's Staten Island Mall.

ald Peters and Gerald Peters Gold Mine.

Big national retailers and malls began opening on Thanksgiving several years ago. The idea was to cater to people who can't wait until the day after Thanksgiving known as Black Friday, to start their holiday

least part of the day. It can pay off: Shoppers spent an estimated \$3.3 billion on Thanksgiving last year, according to ShopperTrak, a company that compiles retail industry statistics.

The economics of opening on Thanksgiving can be a little different for the

less a retailer is a coffee house or food store, he says they'll probably waste time and money by being open. "They're not going to get much sympathy," Phibbs says. "People are going to ask, 'Are you nuts? Why didn't you close?'"

But some small stores in malls don't have a choice. Refinery, a men's leather goods and accessory store, will be open along at 10 a.m. with the other stores in the Coconut Point mall in Estero, Florida, on the Gulf Coast. Owner Andrew Kryliouk says he'd rather not work on Thanksgiving, but like other retailers in the mall, he's required to open his store.

Many of Kryliouk's customers are people known as snowbirds, who spend the cold weather months in Florida and head back north in the spring. Many shop on Thanksgiving because they don't have family nearby and so aren't having big holiday dinners. At the Great Mall in Milpitas, California, Alder Riley expects to be busy on the holiday helping customers who need replacement parts for espresso makers, TV remotes and other household items — something always seems to break on Thanksgiving. Last year, when Riley's business was located in Vermont, his main store in Burlington had \$1,200 in revenue, four times the take on a typical day.

Riley's kiosk, Blu-Bin, uses machines known as 3-D printers to quickly make the parts out of plastic. He'll have three people working from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. that day, earning twice their usual pay as they run eight printers.

"We're anticipating quite a crunch," Riley says. □



Alana Fusco, left, an employee at Gerald Peters, a jewelry store owned by Jerry Amerosi at the Staten Island Mall in New York, helps a customer choose a bracelet for her niece. Fusco and other employees of the store will be working Thanksgiving from 6 p.m., until midnight, because the business is in a large mall which could fine the owner as much as \$1,000 if he closes on the holiday.

(AP Photo/Kathy Willens)

Amerosi says he'd rather not work on the holiday, and if his stores were on a downtown or neighborhood street, he wouldn't. But his lease at the mall requires him to open. That's the norm for most malls, whose landlords fine retailers up to \$1,000 or more if they don't open.

So, Amerosi's stores will be open 6 p.m. to midnight. Eight employees will be working, and if this Thanksgiving is like last year's holiday, they'll have their hands full.

"It was crazy busy," says Amerosi, who declined to give sales figures for his stores, which include Ger-

shopping.

But that has led to criticism of retailers by some labor groups and shoppers for requiring workers to give up time with their families. As a result, some stores have come out publicly to proclaim that they'll remain closed on Thanksgiving. TJX, which owns TJ Maxx, Marshalls, and HomeGoods, even rolled out ads this year that tout its decision to stay closed during the holidays, with a narrator saying "family time comes first."

Still, there's been an expanding list in recent years of big chains and shopping centers that open at

smaller guys. Flower and candy shops in some areas may decide to stay open for customers who need something at the last minute to take to Thanksgiving dinner. But experts say stores that sell gift items for the December holidays are likely to have few takers unless they're in a mall.

Most independent retailers are likely to close to spend time with their families, but also because shoppers won't be prowling downtown areas and neighborhoods to see who might be open, says Bob Phibbs, CEO of The Retail Doctor, a consulting company based in Cossackie, New York. Un-



# French lawmakers vote to extend airstrikes against IS



From left, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, French president Francois Hollande and Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo pay their respects to the victims of the attacks of the 13th November on the Place de la Republique where they each left a white rose prior to a meeting at the Elysee Palace, in Paris, Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2015. Merkel's visit to Paris is part of president Hollande's diplomatic offensive to get the international community to bolster the campaign against the Islamic State militants.

(Etienne Laurent, Pool Photo via AP)

**ELENA BECATOROS  
THOMAS ADAMSON  
Associated Press**

**PARIS (AP)** — French lawmakers voted Wednesday to continue airstrikes in Syria against the Islamic State group that claimed responsibility for the Nov. 13 attacks that killed 130 people in Paris, while Germany's chancellor said her country would do more in the inter-

national fight against the group. Parliament's upper house, the Senate, voted 325-0 with 21 abstentions to prolong France's airstrikes in Syria beyond early January. The lower house had earlier voted 515-4 in favor. French fighter jets joined the U.S.-led coalition against Islamic State extremists in Iraq in 2014, and expanded their mission to

IS targets in Syria in September. President Francois Hollande cited specific threats against French interests stemming from IS in Syria. The vote came as Hollande and German Chancellor Angela Merkel discussed how to combat the group that

has spread its violence beyond Syria to Europe and North Africa.

Merkel indicated her country would do more in the international fight against IS. "We know that this attack wasn't just intended for the people of Paris, but for our whole way of life," she said after laying a single white rose at the Place de la Republique, the Paris square that has become the focal point of tributes for the victims.

Germany, Merkel said, wasn't just saddened by the attacks, "it also feels challenged to do everything to prevent such events from happening again."

Hollande said it would "be a very good signal in the fight against terrorism" if Germany could do more against IS in Syria and Iraq. Germany currently provides weapons and training for Kurds fighting against IS in Iraq.

"If the French president asks me to think about what more we can do, then it's our task to think about that and we will act quickly," Merkel said, adding that the Islamic State "can't be

convinced with words, it must be fought with military means."

On the investigative front, France and Belgium continued a manhunt for two fugitive suspects believed to be directly linked to the Paris attacks.

In the Belgian capital, schools reopened despite the city remaining on the highest possible alert level. Authorities raised it on Saturday saying the threat of a further attack was serious and imminent.

Police armed with automatic weapons stood guard outside schools, while Brussels' subway system partially reopened, bringing a sense of relative normalcy back to the city.

The heightened alert level had shut down shops, schools and the subway system in Brussels since Saturday. The Belgian government also ordered health and emergency services to take precautionary measures to ensure their services aren't infiltrated by extremists.

"When ambulances arrive, we have to see from where they come, who is in it. Really as a precaution," Health Minister Maggie De Block told VRT network. □

## Croatia:

## Biden meets leaders at summit on refugees

**DUSAN STOJANOVIC  
Associated Press**

**ZAGREB, Croatia (AP)** — Former Balkan rivals on Wednesday pledged joint efforts with the United States and the European Union in protecting European borders from a record surge of asylum-seekers amid fears that Islamic militants may have infiltrated the flow.

Southeast European leaders met at an urgent summit in the Croatian capital attended by U.S. Vice President Joe Biden to discuss the crisis that has seen hundreds of thousands of people fleeing war and poverty in the Middle East, Asia and Africa cross the Balkans.

"The present dramatic migrant crisis poses and unprecedented challenge from both humanitarian and security aspects, re-

quiring dialogue and agreement to better protect the EU's external borders and substantially alleviate migrant pressure on affected countries," a declaration issued after the summit said.

Without outlining concrete border measures, the declaration added that for lasting peace and stability of the once war-ravaged region, all countries should have the option of joining the European Union and NATO. The summit included all former Yugoslav states and Albania, of which only Slovenia and Croatia are both in the European Union and in NATO.

Biden's trip came amid a heated debate in the U.S. about whether to admit Syrian refugees following the Islamic State group's Nov. 13 attacks in Paris that

left 130 dead and hundreds wounded. At least two of the militants involved in the Paris attacks had passed through Greece, apparently posing as asylum-seekers.

In Washington, the House of Representatives has passed laws tightening vetting for refugees from Syria and Iraq, although the White House contends the additional restrictions will effectively block people from those countries.

"The refugee crisis is restraining the resources of the countries in the region," Biden said. "It is clear there is a need to improve cross-border cooperation, information sharing to deal with the flow of refugees, while stepping up the capability to counter the terrorist threats as well." □

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## Putin sends air-defense missiles to Syria to deter Turkey



Russian President Vladimir Putin meets with Jordanian King Abdullah II in the Bocharov Ruchei residence in the Black Sea resort of Sochi, Russia. Russia said Wednesday it will deploy air defense missiles to its base in Syria following the downing of a Russian military jet by Turkey.

(Maxim Shipenkov/Pool Photo via AP)

V. ISACHENKOV  
Associated Press

**MOSCOW (AP)**—In a move raising the potential threat of a Russia-NATO conflict, Russia said Wednesday it

will deploy long-range air defense missiles to its base in Syria and destroy any target that may threaten its warplanes following the downing of a Russian mili-

tary jet by Turkey.

The incident was the first time in half a century that a NATO member shot down a Russian plane. If Russia responds by downing a

Turkish plane, NATO member Turkey could proclaim itself under attack and ask the alliance for military assistance.

Most observers believe that a direct military confrontation is unlikely, but that the shooting down of the plane will further fuel the Syrian conflict and complicate international peace efforts. The situation is also alarming because the Russian and Turkish presidents both pose as strong leaders and would be reluctant to back down and seek a compromise.

The S-400 missiles, which Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered sent to the Hemeimeem air base in Syria's coastal province of Latakia, just 50 kilometers (30 miles) away from the border with Turkey, are capable of striking targets within a 400-kilometer (250-mile) range with deadly precision. The military also moved the navy missile cruiser Moskva closer to

the shore to help protect Russian warplanes with its long-range Fort air defense system.

"It will be ready to destroy any aerial target posing a potential danger to our aircraft," Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said at a meeting with military officials. He also announced the severance of all military ties with Turkey and said that from now on, Russian bombers will always be escorted by fighters on combat missions over Syria. Ozgur Unluhisarcikli, director of the German Marshall Fund in Ankara, said it is possible Russia could down a Turkish plane.

"Turkish planes violate the Syrian border daily, either for reconnaissance flights or for anti-IS operations," he said. "In the same way that Turkey argues it has rules of engagement, Russia could also declare its own rules of engagement, saying it has the right to protect the skies of its ally." □



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## Supreme leader says US using money, sex to infiltrate Iran

**ALI AKBAR DAREINI**

**Associated Press**

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) Iran's top leader said Wednesday the United States is using "money and sexual attractions" to try to infiltrate the Islamic Republic and warned Iranians not to fall into the "enemy's trap."

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei told Revolutionary Guard commanders that authorities should take concerns

about "infiltration" seriously and political factions should not use the issue against each other.

"The enemy sets up a network within a nation and inside a country mainly through the two means of money and sexual attractions to change ideals, beliefs and consequently the lifestyle," he said in comments posted on his website and broadcast on state

TV.

His comments appeared to lend support to a recent wave of arrests of pro-Western writers and journalists, which hard-liners in the judiciary and security services have said is necessary to prevent Western infiltration. Iran's moderate President Hassan Rouhani criticized the arrests earlier this month, saying hard-liners are "exaggerating the is-

sue" and misusing Khamenei's warnings as an excuse for the detentions.

The recent arrests of pro-Western writers, journalists and filmmakers are widely seen as part of a backlash by hard-liners in the wake of the landmark nuclear agreement reached with the U.S. and five other world powers last summer. Hard-liners fear the deal could lead to a broader

rapprochement between Tehran and Washington that would undermine and ultimately end the Islamic Republic.

Khamenei, who has the final say on all matters of state, said that "if some are making factional use of this (infiltration), it's a mistake. But these words should not lead to ignoring and forgetting the main issue of infiltration." □

## IS claims Tunisia attack, suspected bomber's body found



A man walks past the bus that exploded Tuesday in Tunis, Wednesday Nov.25, 2015. Tunisia's president declared a 30-day state of emergency across the country and imposed an overnight curfew for the capital Tuesday after an explosion struck a bus carrying members of the presidential guard, killing at least 12 people and wounding 20 others.

(AP Photo)

**B. BEN BOUAZZA**

**Associated Press**

**TUNIS, Tunisia (AP)** — The body of a suspected suicide bomber was found at the scene of an attack on Tunisia's presidential guard,

and the Islamic State group claimed responsibility Wednesday for the attack that left 13 people dead.

Tuesday's attack on a bus carrying Tunisia's presidential guards involved about

10 kilograms (22 pounds) of military explosives, the Interior Ministry said.

The blast rattled the country after a particularly violent year. If the Islamic State group was indeed behind

it, it is the latest of several major attacks in Europe and the Mideast seeding terror well beyond its base in Syria and Iraq.

Tunisian authorities discovered the body of a 13th person in the bus, believed to be the "terrorist who caused the explosion," the Interior Ministry said in a statement Wednesday.

Ministry spokesman Walid Louguini told The Associated Press on Wednesday that the 13th body couldn't be identified by fingerprints because no fingers were found. The ministry said a DNA analysis of the body is underway.

The government declared the blast a terrorist attack and imposed a 30-day nationwide state of emergency, with troops fanned out across the capital.

The Islamic State group issued a statement posted online Wednesday saying a militant it identified as Abu Abdullah al-Tunisi carried out the attack after infiltrating the bus and killing

around 20 "apostates."

Earlier this year, the country suffered two major attacks by Islamic extremists that targeted tourist sites.

The blast on a tree-lined avenue in the heart of Tunis is a new blow to a country that is seen as a democratic model for the region. It came days after authorities visibly increased security in the capital and deployed security forces in unusually high numbers.

The U.S. State Department denounced the attack and the U.N. Security Council pledged support for Tunisia's young democracy. Lyad Madani, secretary general of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation—the world's largest bloc of Muslim-majority countries—strongly condemned the attack. In a statement Wednesday, Madani expressed his solidarity with Tunisia and said such acts of terrorism are seeking to alter the country's "moderation and tolerance-driven model of society." □

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# Vanishing China execs a vexatious mystery for HK market

KELVIN CHAN  
Associated Press

**HONG KONG (AP)** — The chairman of the Hong Kong arm of one of China's biggest securities companies goes missing. The head of another firm resurfaces after months incommunicado. An executive at a film studio is detained for allegedly taking bribes. They're not plot outlines for crime novels but real life cases lifted from the normally dry Hong Kong stock exchange filings of Chinese companies over the past year. The latest example came Monday when Guotai Junan International Holdings Ltd., the Hong Kong unit of a Chinese securities company, said it was unable to reach its chairman and chief executive Yim Fung since Nov. 18, sending its shares plummeting 12 percent. Speculation swirled in local media that his disappearance was related to a recently launched investigation into a senior official at China's securities regulator. That probe is part of a broad crackdown on the finance industry following China's stock market meltdown over the summer. The company said it would appoint temporary replacements for Yim but

declined further comment. Such cases would be highly unusual for other global financial centers, but have become commonplace in Hong Kong, where the city's stock exchange allows international investors to access an increasing number of mainland Chinese companies. They highlight some of the risks of investing in China's public companies, which operate in an opaque political and legal system, and face additional uncertainty because of President Xi Jinping's ongoing and wide-ranging assault on corruption. "It shows on one level that investing in some of these companies is quite risky," said Jamie Allen, secretary general of the Asian Corporate Governance Association. "It also says a lot about the legal and political system in China. China doesn't have a system of law like Hong Kong. In China you can disappear." Hong Kong is a former British colony that's now a specially administered Chinese region with legal and financial systems that are separate from mainland China's. Among the Hong Kong-listed Chinese companies that have reported missing

executives this year: — Waste disposal company Dongjiang Environmental Co. last month suspended its shares from trading because it couldn't reach Chairman Zhang Weiyang before a scheduled board

meeting. The company said it later found out from Zhang's family that he was being investigated "by the relevant authority" in China, although it didn't say



In this Nov. 4, 2015 photo, Yim Fung, chairman and chief executive of Guotai Junan International Holdings Ltd., the Hong Kong unit of a Chinese securities company, attends an event in Hong Kong. The company said it was unable to reach Yim since Nov. 18, 2015, sending its shares plummeting 12 percent. Speculation swirled in local media that his disappearance was related to a recently launched investigation into a senior official at China's securities regulator.

(Apple Daily via AP)

back to work. He explained to the company that he was "assisting the relevant department" of the Chinese government with an investigation while he was

away, without disclosing further details. — China Aircraft Leasing Group said in June it was not able to reach its CEO, Mike Poon, after he submitted his resignation while he was in the middle of his annual vacation. The company said Poon didn't give any reason for his departure in his resignation letter. Nor did he make any reference to news reports in Hong Kong and mainland Chinese that said he might be caught up in a Chinese government investigation into China Southern Airlines, which is a customer of China Aircraft Leasing. Aside from disappearing executives, much more clear-cut announcements of alleged wrongdoing are a recurring theme at Hong Kong-listed Chinese companies.

Among the slew of cases this year, Alibaba Pictures Group Ltd., the film arm of the Chinese e-commerce giant, said one of its directors, Patrick Liu Chunming, was detained by the Public Security Bureau in connection with an investigation into the "alleged receipt of bribes" while Liu worked at Internet company Tencent Holdings. The company said the charges were unrelated to his employment at Alibaba. □

# India soldiers kill 3 rebels who attack army camp in Kashmir

AIJAZ HUSSAIN  
Associated Press

**SRINAGAR, India (AP)** — Three heavily armed rebels stormed an army camp in the Indian portion of Kashmir on Wednesday and were killed in a fierce gunbattle with soldiers, the army said. A civilian worker with the army also was killed and an army officer was wounded in the fighting, which took

place close to the heavily militarized line of control dividing Kashmir between India and Pakistan, said another officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to talk to reporters. He said the militants used grenades and gunfire to attack the camp, located about 150 kilometers (95 miles) northwest of Indian Kashmir's main city of Srinagar. The camp houses the Indian army's headquarters in the frontier region. A reinforcement of army commandos led the counterassault, and the intense exchange of gunfire left some barracks and a vehicle on fire, the officer said. There was no independent confirmation of the incident. No rebel group fighting Indian rule immediately issued any statement.

There also was no confirmation of an earlier report that an oil depot inside the camp had caught fire during the incident. Rebels have been fighting against Indian rule since 1989. More than 68,000 people have been killed in the uprising and Indian military crackdown. India and Pakistan have fought two wars over their

competing claims to Kashmir since they won independence from Britain in 1947, and each country administers part of the region. India accuses Pakistan of arming and funding the rebels. Islamabad denies the accusation and says it provides only moral and diplomatic support to separatists. □





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## Outgoing Argentine president says she's not going away

**PETER PRENGAMAN**  
**Associated Press**

**BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP)** — When Argentines chose a new president in recent elections, many voters seemed more concerned about what would happen with the old one.

Such is the hold of outgoing President Cristina Fernandez on the public imagination in this South American country, where the telegenic, combative and polarizing leader steps down Dec. 10 after dominating the political landscape during eight years in office. Fernandez, who was constitutionally barred from running for a third consecutive term, leaves with high approval ratings despite myriad economic problems and the cloud of several alleged corruptions scandals.

Perhaps most significantly, she'll be leaving after a major political defeat: Her chosen successor, Daniel Scioli, lost Sunday's presidential election to Mauricio Macri, who campaigned on free-market ideas as well as promises to roll back many of Fernandez's left-leaning policies and distance the country from Venezuela.

"It's unlikely that Fernandez goes quietly into the night," said Jason Marczak, deputy director of the Atlantic Council's Adrienne Arsht Latin America Center. "But her concrete plans post-election? Your guess is as good as mine."

Fernandez, 62, has said little about her future, other than repeatedly promising not to go away. It's hard to imagine anything less from Argentina's most important female political figure since Eva Peron, the country's iconic first lady from the 1940s. Even before assum-

ing the presidency, Fernandez was a central figure as first lady in the administration of her late husband and predecessor, Nestor Kirchner, and as a senator. "Know this," Fernandez told thousands of support-

Congress.

But Fernandez will also face fierce competition. A principal adversary will be Sergio Massa, a former Fernandez Cabinet chief who broke with the president to form his own political

erful force as opposition leader than as a former president who had to play nice with the new party standard-bearer.

In the days after Scioli's worse-than-expected showing in the first round of



**Argentina's President Cristina Fernandez waves to supporters after inaugurating medical services at a public hospital in Moron, on the outskirts of Buenos Aires, Argentina, Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2015. The South American leader steps down Dec. 10 after eight years in the presidential office. Fernandez, 62, has said little about her future, other than repeatedly promising not to go away. (AP Photo/Ricardo Mazalan)**

ers late last month. "I won't be president Dec. 10, but I will always be there for the people when I'm needed." But the lack of clarity over her future has not stopped speculation.

In the short-term, Fernandez will try to keep control of the Peronist Party, which maintains a majority in the Senate, the largest bloc in the lower house and governorships of 15 out of 24 provinces.

She'll have some powerful allies, including son Maximo Kirchner, who leads large political youth movement called La Campora, and outgoing Economy Minister Axel Kicillof.

Both have been elected to

movement. Massa got 21 percent of the vote in the first round of presidential voting last month, appealing to dissident Peronists frustrated by Fernandez's administration.

"Peronism is entering a process of rupture and change," said Roberto Bacman, director of the Center for Public Opinion Studies, a South American research firm. "The fight is to see who will be its leader over the next four years."

One common theory, flatly rejected by her supporters, is that Fernandez wanted Scioli to lose, and thus didn't campaign hard on his behalf. The logic is that she could be a more pow-

erful force as opposition leader than as a former president who had to play nice with the new party standard-bearer.

In Fernandez's first comments after the first round, she spoke for two hours, touting her record, reminiscing about her late husband and promising to defend the power couple's accomplishments. She never mentioned Scioli.

Raul Aragon, director of consulting firm Raul Aragon and Associates, says Fernandez's chances of returning to power have been hurt by the success of Maria Eugenia Vidal. □

## Two massacres in 12 hours leave 15 dead in Honduras

**ALBERTO ARCE**  
**Associated Press**

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — Two massacres that killed 15 people in less than 12 hours rocked Honduras and left the country's top police official in tears Wednesday. Police said seven victims were shot in the capital of Tegucigalpa early Wednesday, while eight bus drivers were killed in the northern city of San Pedro Sula late Tuesday. Police commissioner Leonel Saucedo gave a news conference where bodies were found after the attack in the capital, where six of the victims were pulled from their homes and killed. People could be heard crying in the background when a reporter asked the police chief how he felt.

"I can't feel anything other than pain, sadness, much sorrow for what happened ... It hurts to see a scene like this," said Saucedo, breaking into tears. "But it's not time to drop our guard. It's time to keep fighting for the welfare of Honduras and this family that is suffering." He said the manner of the attack suggests an attack by gangs, who battle for territory to charge extortions and sell drugs. The same morning, investigators found a voodoo doll stuffed with needles and bearing Saucedo's face at one of the crime scenes. In the other massacre, six men in flak jackets and ski masks got off a bus at a terminal outside the city of San Pedro Sula on Tuesday and shot eight bus drivers one by one. Transport director Geovanny Dubon said the attack should be classified as "terrorism." □





## Paseo Herencia Tree-Lighting Ceremony Heralds In the Holidays!



**NOORD** - For many living on Aruba, nothing marks the official commencement of end of the year festivities like the tree-lighting ceremony at Paseo Herencia Shopping Mall in



Palm Beach. This was evident by the packed house in the Plaza Padu on Saturday night, November 21, as the season was welcomed with the ritual broadcast of "E Regalo" TV show starring

local media personality Ruben Garcia. Collaborating with Paseo Herencia GM Valerie Pietersz-Camacho and Marketing Manager Candy Rasmijn, the ATV program



and the mall put together a fabulous evening of entertainment, punctuated by the moment all their spectacular holiday decorations were set alight. A cappella singing group "Skyfall" opened the program with members Rousseau, Gabriel, Ricardo and Michael harmonizing a touching rendition of "Silent Night."

**Continued on page 15**



## PWA Slalom Airwaves Noumea Dream Cup: Half a World Away for Sarah-Quita Offringa's Last Event for 2015!

### ORANJESTAD/NOUMEA

The world's fastest sailors head for the tropical paradise of New Caledonia for the grand stand finale of the 2015 PWA Slalom World Tour. Here the Tour will reach its nail biting climax and this year's world champions will be decided and crowned. The event runs from November 24th to 29th.

Noumea, New Caledonia, is part of French Polynesia, located deep in the south-west Pacific Ocean - 750 miles east of Australia. New Caledonia boasts the biggest lagoon in the world spanning an impressive 44,000km and has been listed as a UNESCO World



race.

Sarah-Quita Offringa took a giant step towards slalom world title No.2 as she made a solid start to the event with two 2nd places. The Aruban gem only needs a 7th place finish or better to achieve just that and after an excellent first day it looks somewhat of a formality that she will be regaining her slalom world crown for the first time since 2011 come the end of the event.

The forecast for tomorrow looks promising and should result in another enthralling day of racing. The skippers' meeting has been called for 9am with the action



her career. Barring disaster you can expect to see Offringa completing 2015 in style.

Behind Offringa there is a ferocious battle for the remaining places on the overall podium with 4 women — Lena Erdil , Cagla Kubat , Fulya Ünlü, from Turkey and Delphine Cousin from France all currently tied for 2nd place with 4,002 points each. Hopes and expectations were



Heritage Site since 2008. Anse Vata beach will provide the perfect, pristine, stage for the conclusion of the 2015 PWA World Tour. With the trade winds frequently blowing all day between 10 and 30 knots. This is as much a test of stamina as it is of top speed sailing causing the sailors to be on their toes.

The ones to Watch in the women's division are Aruba's own Sarah-Quita Offringa enters the final event of the year with a commanding lead having won both events so far this

season. The 24 year old has returned to the full slalom tour for the first time since winning it in 2011, due to finishing her studies, in science an innovation management, and is firmly on course to collect slalom world title No.2 — knowing that a 7th place finish or better will guarantee her the title and cap an outstanding year for her, which has seen her collect an incredible 8th freestyle world crown, while also securing her place on the prestigious podium in the waves for the first time in



high on the inaugural day, although several attempts were made to begin the opening elimination of the week but unfortunately the breeze remained too unstable for competition meaning the sailors spent the first day on hold making use of the time to fine tune their kits.

After a low key start to the event yesterday the trade winds returned with a vengeance on Day 2 to provide an exhilarating day of racing in 20-30 knots of

wind, which was packed with drama and massive upsets that could have massive repercussions with regard to the men's title

commencing from 9:30am — if conditions allow. After an astonishing first day of racing make sure you don't miss any of the drama by tuning into [www.pwaworldtour.com](http://www.pwaworldtour.com) — here you'll be able to follow everything as it happens via the PWA live stream and live ticker. Will Sarah-Quita Offringa continue to hold her nerve? Find out tomorrow right here.

Women's Current Standings After Elimination 2 —  
1st Delphine Cousin  
2nd Sarah-Quita Offringa  
3rd Lena Erdil  
4th Cagla Kubat  
5th Marion Mortefon .





# BONUS



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### Paseo

Continued from page 13

Local Diva Jaja showed how to belt out the very same favorite to thunderous applause.

A lively dancing show to vocalist Annalise Osuna singing "All I want for Christmas is You" had the audience tapping their toes and drew big smiles from everyone. Of course, no end of the season pro-



gram on Aruba would be complete without a rousing session with a local Gaita band, and Gaita group "Tradishon" delivered.

Both islanders and vacationers of all ages from North and South America found the annual Paseo Herencia tree-lighting ritual a delightful evening and the perfect way to welcome the season. Visit their Facebook page to see great pictures from the event, and check regularly for many special promotions they will be featuring over the coming month. The mall has over



50 shops that offer wonderful gift ideas and gorgeous holiday ensembles, like the elegant outfit worn by Candy, courtesy of Ka-

prichio; shops stay open almost every evening until 10 pm. Even your four legged friend can be beautifully outfitted at Maxi-Pet! □



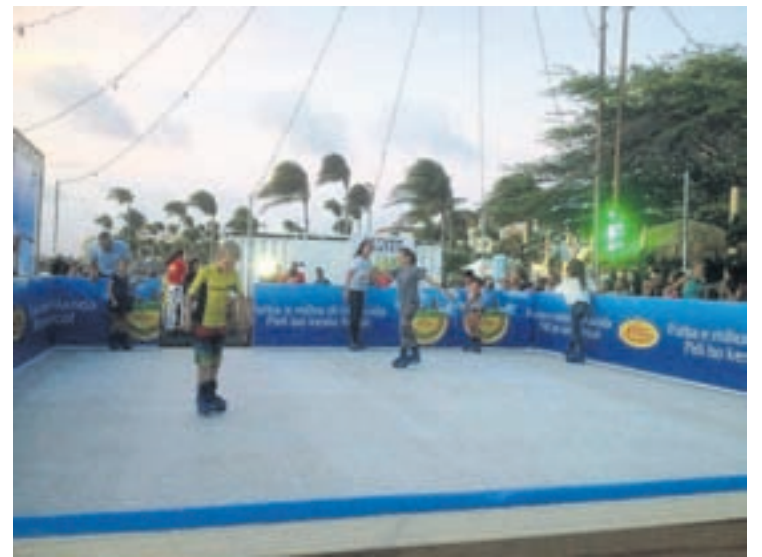
## One more week of skating at MooMba!



**MOOMBA BEACH** - Owing to glowing revues and happy faces, the artificial skating rink at MooMba will be ready for more fun for a few more days. The perfect little rink is open for everyone who wishes to put on skates and swirl around. From 6 - 10 pm and in the

weekends from 6 - midnight you can have winter fun on the ice. And not only that, you can drink hot chocolate, gluhwein, pea soup or eat fondue afterwards. MooMba's dinner specials will reflect the wintery atmosphere in the tropics. The skating rink is opera-

tional until Sunday, November 27. Skate rental is just Afl 5 (or just under \$3). Chill, Frico and Frisian Flag are the sponsors of the unique event. So put on your skates and try skating! Photos show the unique phenomenon of skating in the tropics. □



## Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

*Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "from the pier to your plate!"*



**ORANJESTAD** - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fisherman of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad. Driftwood owner Herby

Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing. A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words "fresh seafood" really mean. What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on 12 noon and from 1pm to 5pm.



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You can call Herby directly at (297) 592 4040 or go to [www.driftwoodaruba.com](http://www.driftwoodaruba.com)

**Driftwood Restaurant.** This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their

extended menu has been jubled by many. Driftwood offers daily specials, as well as a delicious 4-course menu for just \$25.95 **Charter deep sea fishing rates:** \$400 - 1/2 day • \$760 - full day. Rates per boat Max. 6 people. **Driftwood Restaurant** Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant; Klipstraat #12, Downtown Oranjestad. Tel: (297) 583 2515 [www.driftwoodaruba.com](http://www.driftwoodaruba.com) Open hours: every day, from 5pm till 10:30pm. Sunday Closed.





## Frank Gifford's family says CTE found in his brain

**NEW YORK (AP)** -- The family of Pro Football Hall of Famer Frank Gifford says signs of the degenerative disease chronic traumatic encephalopathy were found in his brain after his death.

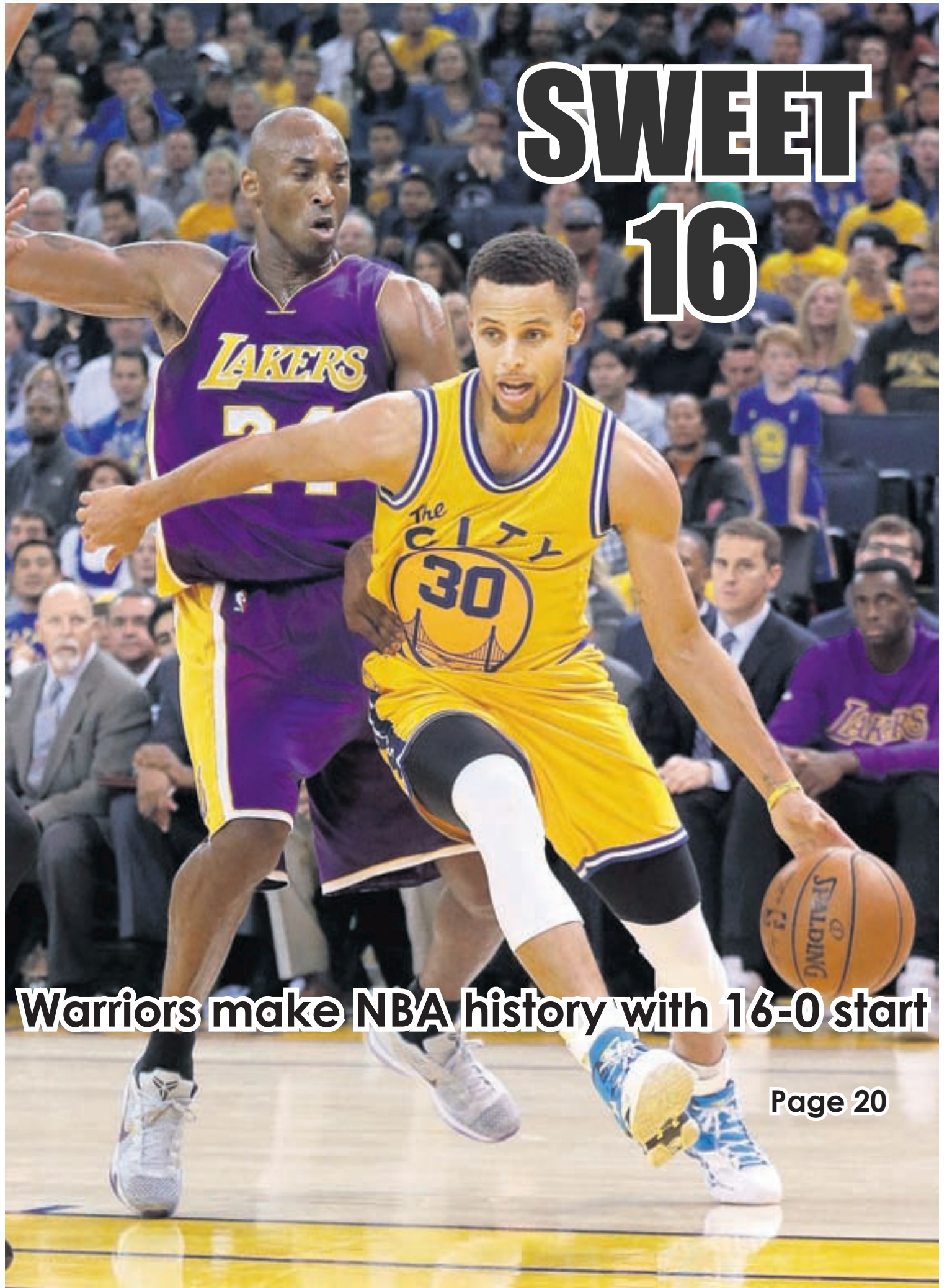
In a statement released through NBC News on Wednesday, the family said he had "experienced first-hand" symptoms associated with CTE but did not offer specifics. Gifford died of natural causes at his Connecticut home in August at age 84.

His widow, Kathie Lee Gifford, is a host for NBC's "Today." The statement said that the family "made the difficult decision to have his brain studied in hopes of contributing to the advancement of medical research concerning the link between football and traumatic brain injury."

"Our suspicions that he was suffering from the debilitating effects of head trauma were confirmed," the Giffords added. CTE, which can be diagnosed only after death, has been found in the brains of dozens of former players. Linked to repeated brain trauma, it is associated with symptoms such as memory loss, impaired judgment, depression, and, eventually, progressive dementia.

The statement said the family found "comfort in knowing that by disclosing his condition we might contribute positively to the ongoing conversation that needs to be had; that he might be an inspiration for others suffering with this disease that needs to be addressed in the present; and that we might be a small part of the solution to an urgent problem concerning anyone involved with football, at any level."

**Continued on Next Page**



## Warriors make NBA history with 16-0 start

**Page 20**

Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry (30) drives past Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Oakland, Calif., Tuesday, Nov. 24, 2015. The Warriors won 111-77. Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry (30) drives past Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Oakland, Calif., Tuesday, Nov. 24, 2015. The Warriors won 111-77. Associated Press





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## Packers' Rodgers looking forward to returns of Favre, Starr

**GENARO C. ARMAS**  
AP Sports Writer

**GREEN BAY, Wisconsin**

(AP) — Aaron Rodgers often speaks with pride about the history of the Green Bay Packers, a team that has been fortunate to have three of the NFL's best quarterbacks on its side.

All three of them could be at Lambeau Field for one memorable Thanksgiving night.

Rodgers is a definite with the Packers facing the Chicago Bears on Thurs-

day. At halftime, former quarterback Brett Favre's name and retired number will be unveiled inside the stadium in a ceremony that Hall of Fame quarterback Bart Starr is hoping to attend.

"It will be a great day for all Packer fans," Rodgers said Tuesday.

It's the completion of a season-long reconciliation between Favre and the team he helped revive when he arrived in 1992. Favre made a triumphant return to Lambeau Field



in July, when the Packers held ceremonies to induct

In this Sunday, Nov. 15, 2015 file photo, Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers warms up before an NFL football game against the Detroit Lions in Green Bay, Wis.

Associated Press

## Gifford

Continued from Previous Page

A running back, defensive back, wide receiver and special teams player, Gifford was the NFL MVP in 1956 when his New York Giants won the league championship. A crushing hit by Eagles linebacker Chuck Bednarik in November 1960 flattened Gifford and likely shortened his football career. Bednarik was pictured standing over the unconscious Gifford, pumping his fist in celebration. Gifford was in the hospital for 10 days and sidelined until 1962.

"We have great respect and sympathy for the Gifford family," the Giants said in a statement. "We all miss Frank dearly. We support the family's decision to contribute to the discussion



In this Sept. 15, 2013 file photo, former New York Giants player Frank Gifford looks on before an NFL football game between the New York Giants and the Denver Broncos in East Rutherford, N.J.

Associated Press

and research of an issue we take very seriously."

The NFL declined comment. Gifford later had a successful second career in broadcasting, most no-

tably on ABC's "Monday Night Football," where he famously served as a buffer between fellow announcers Don Meredith and Howard Cosell.□

him into the Packers' Hall of Fame, and to retire his jersey.

The sides had a messy split in 2008. Favre was replaced by Rodgers, a first-round NFL draft pick who was the backup for three years.

"I think it's been a good proper healing process for everybody," Rodgers said. The general assumption is that Favre will be elected to the NFL Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility in February.

Starr, 81, is already in the hall. One of the most beloved players in Packers history is recovering from two strokes and a heart attack, and his family has said it is hopeful he will be at Lambeau on Thursday. Rodgers said Starr has been a "great encouragement" to him since he was drafted in 2005. Rod-

gers loves the stories that Starr relates about his trips to the Super Bowl or NFL championships.

"It's always fun being around him, but he's such a positive, encouraging person. It'll be great to see him," Rodgers said.

What isn't as much fun for the Packers is the quick turnaround after playing on Sunday. The Packers have 16 players with various injuries, though Rodgers is back at practice after recovering from a sore right shoulder.

"Aaron's good. He's sore, just like everybody is," coach Mike McCarthy said.

Green Bay returned to practice Tuesday after taking a day off following the team's 30-13 win over Minnesota that ended a three-game losing streak.□



# Redskins could play twice in London next season

CHRIS LEHOURITES

AP Sports Writer

**LONDON (AP)** — The Washington Redskins could become the first NFL team to play two games in London in one season — in consecutive weeks, no less.

The Redskins will face the Cincinnati Bengals on Oct. 30 at Wembley Stadium, the NFL announced Wednesday. Washington also could wind up facing the St. Louis Rams a week earlier at Twickenham Stadium, depending on the Redskins' finish in the NFC East this season.

"Really? Two? In one year? Really? Hmmmm. I never heard of that," Redskins safety Dashon Goldson said after practice in Ashburn, Virginia, on Wednesday. While some of Washington's players sounded eager to play a game in Britain, including those who've never been overseas, the prospect of a pair of weeks there did not sound all that enticing to everyone. "I don't want to be out there that long, man," cornerback

Will Blackmon said. "You can't really enjoy it. You get there, first of all, (and) you've got to get adjusted to (the time) difference. That alone. And it is a business trip." In the first of the three London games scheduled for next season, the Indianapolis Colts will take on the Jacksonville Jaguars at Wembley on Oct. 2. The NFL has been playing regular-season games in London since 2007, with every one played at Wembley, the home of England's national soccer team. But next year will start a new deal to hold games at Twickenham, the home of England's national rugby team. The Redskins will travel to London for the first time since 1992, when they played the San Francisco 49ers in the American Bowl, a preseason game held at the old Wembley Stadium. But they could end up in England for a bit longer than any other team that has been heading across the Atlantic Ocean since the New York Giants beat

the Miami Dolphins in a regular-season game in 2007. In Wednesday's announcement, the NFL only said the Rams would face an NFC East opponent.

"Washington may play in consecutive weeks in London in 2016, depending on the final standings," the NFL said. "At minimum, they will face the Bengals in Week 8." Redskins defensive lineman Ricky Jean Francois' take? "I just hope we don't leave London, then fly back here and go back," he said. "Let's just stay over there and have a good time, that's all. Just treat it like home. London will be like a new home for us." The Rams might face



In this Sept. 13, 2015 file photo, Miami Dolphins defensive end Derrick Shelby (79) and middle linebacker Kelvin Sheppard (52) tackle Washington Redskins running back Alfred Morris (46) during the first half of an NFL football game in Landover, Md. Associated Press

the Giants, Philadelphia Eagles or Dallas Cowboys, instead of Washington.

The Bengals and Colts will also be playing in London for the first time, while the Jaguars will be returning for the fourth straight year.

This season, the Jags won for the first time in London,

coming back to beat the Buffalo Bills 34-31.

Earlier this month, the NFL said it would stage at least one game per season starting next year at Twickenham, which recently hosted the Rugby World Cup final between New Zealand and Australia. □

## AP source: Rams' Bailey in critical condition after shooting

R.B. FALLSTROM

AP Sports Writer

**ST. LOUIS (AP)** — Suspended St. Louis Rams wide receiver Stedman Bailey is in critical but stable condition after being shot Tuesday, a person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press.

The Rams said in a statement they were "aware Stedman Bailey was involved in an incident" late Tuesday and that they had spoken with him. The person who spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because details have not been released by the Rams did not specify where the shooting took place.

Bailey, the eighth overall draft pick by the Rams in 2013, was suspended



This Aug. 8, 2013, file photo shows St. Louis Rams wide receiver Stedman Bailey watching from the bench in the fourth quarter of a preseason NFL football game against the Cleveland Browns, in Cleveland. Associated Press

for four games earlier this month for violating the NFL's substance abuse policy. He has two games remaining on the ban. Bailey has 12 receptions for 182 yards with one touchdown this season. □

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## NBA Capsules

# Golden State becomes 1st team to begin season 16-0

**The Associated Press**

**OAKLAND, California (AP)**

— The defending champion Golden State Warriors set the record for best start in NBA history at 16-0, as Stephen Curry had 24 points and nine assists in a 111-77 rout of the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday. With their coach sidelined, the Warriors surpassed the 15-0 starts by the Washington Capitols of 1948-49 and 1993-94 Houston Rockets. Confetti streamed down when the final buzzer sounded, but Golden State's players barely celebrated.

Kobe Bryant shot 1 of 14 for just four points, matching the worst-shooting performance of his career in

a game where he had at least one basket. The Lakers dropped to 2-12 with the second-worst record in the NBA.

**PACERS 123, WIZARDS 106**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Paul George scored a season-high 40 points and made seven 3-pointers, part of a franchise-record 19 by Indiana in a victory over Washington.

C.J. Miles added 32 points, his most since joining the Pacers before the start of last season, as Indiana won for the ninth time in 11 games.

Miles was 8 of 9 from beyond the arc, and George also missed only once from deep.

The Pacers finished 73.1



Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry, right, celebrates on the bench with forward Draymond Green, center, and forward Harrison Barnes during the second half of an NBA basketball game against the Los Angeles Lakers in Oakland, Calif., Tuesday, Nov. 24, 2015. The Warriors won 111-77.

**Associated Press**

# THANKS GIVING

menu

**THURSDAY NOV. 26TH**

**OYSTER BAR SELECTIONS**

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- French Kiss (New Brunswick)
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each \$3.50

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**APPETIZERS**

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*Fresh Atlantic salmon fillet sliced raw and paired with panca-dressed tuna tartare, presented with wakame salad and sweet and spicy red pepper compote*
- Seabass Beignets** \$13.50  
*Sliced Chilean seabass deep-fried in beer batter and garnished with roast fennel and red pepper, curried butternut sauce*
- Crab Fritters** \$12.00  
*Piquant dumplings of lump crabmeat deep-fried and served with red and yellow chili sauce, cilantro cream*
- Grilled Oysters** \$12.50  
*Bluepoints on the half shell with buttered leeks and fennel*

**ENTREES**

- Blackened Cobia** \$29.50  
*Ocean-raised cobia fillet blackened and presented with sweet potato, asparagus, and sweet and spicy red pepper compote*
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percent (19 of 26) from 3-point range, crushing their previous season high of 44.4 percent (12 of 27). Gary Neal scored 23 points off the bench for the Wizards, whose three-game winning streak was broken.

**GRIZZLIES 110, MAVERICKS 96**

**MEMPHIS, Tennessee (AP)** — Mike Conley scored 21 points, Jeff Green added 19 and seven Memphis players reached double figures in a victory over Dallas.

Marc Gasol had 15 points and 10 rebounds for Memphis, which won its fifth in the last six games. Matt Barnes and Mario Chalmers added 14 points apiece, and JaMychal Green contributed 13.

Raymond Felton and J.J. Barea each scored 16 points and tried to pull the Mavericks back into the game in the fourth quarter. Dirk Nowitzki finished with 14 points and Zaza Pachulia had 13, both also grabbing 10 rebounds.

Wesley Matthews had 11 points and Deron Williams finished with 10 as Dallas lost its second straight.

**HAWKS 121, CELTICS 97**

**ATLANTA (AP)** — Paul Mill-

sap scored 25 points, Jeff Teague added 16 and Atlanta beat Boston.

Atlanta had dropped four of five and was coming off a loss Saturday at Cleveland in which coach Mike Budenholzer was ejected and subsequently fined \$25,000 for bumping into referee Ben Taylor. The Hawks essentially put the game out of reach with an 18-3 run that made it 100-80 with 6:20 remaining on Teague's three-point play.

Avery Bradley had 15 of his 25 points in the first half for Boston, which has dropped three of four. Isaiah Thomas scored 14 points as the Celtics, who began the game ranked ninth in opponent scoring, allowed a season high in points.

**BULLS 93, TRAIL BLAZERS 88**

**PORTLAND, Oregon (AP)** — Jimmy Butler scored 22 points, Derrick Rose added 17 in his return to the lineup and Chicago held off Portland. Rose had missed two games with a left ankle injury. His floating jumper stretched Chicago's lead to 78-65 early in the fourth quarter, but Portland rallied within 78-76 on Ed Davis' tip shot. □



## NHL Capsules

## Anaheim wins 21st straight home game against Calgary

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, California (AP)

— Rickard Rakell and Corey Perry scored two goals apiece as the Anaheim Ducks rallied from a third-period deficit for their 21st straight home victory over the Calgary Flames, 5-3 on Tuesday.

Captain Ryan Getzlaf tied a team record with five assists for the Ducks, who haven't lost a regular-season game to Calgary at Honda Center since Jan. 19, 2004.

The Ducks' home streak against the Flames is the

NHL's longest in a two-team series since Philadelphia won an NHL-record 23 straight over Pittsburgh in the 1980s.

Michael Frolik scored two goals and Sam Bennett had a goal and an assist for the Flames, who couldn't complete their first three-game winning streak of the season. Karri Ramo stopped 27 shots for Calgary.

SENATORS 7, STARS 4

DALLAS (AP) — Jean-Gabriel Pageau scored two third-period goals and Ottawa held off Dallas.

Ottawa was outshot 37-20 but scored three unassisted goals after takeaways, one on the power play and another short-handed, by Pageau.

Craig Anderson made 33 saves in his third straight win, including two shut-outs.

Pageau scored on two breakaways, including his league-leading third short-handed, and added an assist. He has six goals this season.

NHL leader Jamie Benn scored his 15th and 16th goals for Dallas. □



Anaheim Ducks celebrate a goal by Ryan Kesler as Calgary Flames' Johnny Gaudreau, front, skates past them during the third period of an NHL hockey game Tuesday, Nov. 24, 2015, in Anaheim, Calif. The Ducks won 5-3.

Associated Press

## Manning's absence extended as he's fitted with walking cast

ARNIE STAPLETON

AP Pro Football Writer

ENGLEWOOD, Colorado (AP) — Denver quarterback Peyton Manning will spend the next week in a walking cast and is expected to miss at least two more NFL games with a torn plantar fascia in his left foot.

Manning missed the Broncos' 17-15 win at Chicago last week when his longtime backup Brock Osweiler won his first NFL start. Manning stayed in Denver to continue getting treatment.

On Monday, Manning flew to Charlotte, North Carolina, to seek a second opinion from renowned foot and ankle specialist Dr. Robert Anderson, who recommended the five-time league MVP spend at least the next week in a walking cast before beginning additional rehab.

"We expect him to be unavailable for at least a couple of games," coach Gary Kubiak told the team's website on Tuesday. That means Manning, who was benched after throwing his fourth interception against Kansas City on Nov. 15, will miss Denver's game against New England on Sunday, and the game at San Diego on Dec. 6, at the very least.

Kubiak had already said Osweiler was his starter this week when the Broncos host the unbeaten New England Patriots. That was both a reflection of Osweiler's performance and Manning's health. Osweiler threw for 250 yards, two touchdowns and no interceptions at Chicago — Denver's first game without a turnover all season.

Manning will be able to attend meetings and some workouts this week, Kubiak said. He excused Manning from practices and meetings last week although the quarter-



In this Sunday, Nov. 15, 2015 file photo, Denver Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning (18) smiles and acknowledges the crowd after setting the new passing record against the Kansas City Chiefs during the first half of an NFL football game in Denver. Associated Press

back did attend Friday's workout.

The Broncos have only one other quarterback on the roster, rookie Trevor Siemian. With Manning's absence being extended, they're planning to work out former Vikings quarterback Christian Ponder on Wednesday. Manning has had a difficult season. After taking a \$4 million pay cut over the winter, he and Kubiak spent all offseason and the first two months of the season trying to mesh offensive philosophies, and it usually wasn't very pretty. □

## Forbes: Rangers most valuable NHL franchise at \$1.2B

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York Rangers are the most valuable NHL franchise at \$1.2 billion, taking the top spot on the Forbes list for the first time since 2004.

The magazine said on Tuesday the Montreal Canadiens were second at \$1.18 billion, followed by the Toronto Maple Leafs at \$1.15 billion. The Maple Leafs had been the most valuable team since 2005, but they've reached the playoffs only once since 2006, and their 13-year home sellout streak ended in March.

The Chicago Blackhawks, winners of three of the last six Stanley Cups, were fourth at \$925 million, with the Boston Bruins next at \$750 million. Completing the top 10 were Vancouver, Philadelphia, Detroit, Los Angeles, and Washington.

The Rangers reached the



New York Rangers forward Rick Nash (61) is congratulated by forward Mats Zuccarello (36) after he scored the game-winning goal during the overtime period of an NHL hockey game against the Florida Panthers, Saturday, Nov. 21, 2015, in Sunrise, Fla.

Associated Press

Stanley Cup finals in 2014, and the conference finals in 2015. Madison Square Garden recently underwent a \$1 billion renovation. □



## Olympic medalist and world champion Steven Langton retires

**LAKE PLACID, N.Y. (AP) —** Steven Langton has retired from bobsledding, ending his career with two world championship gold medals and two bronze medals from the Sochi Olympics. The two-time Olympian made the announcement Wednesday through USA Bobsled and Skeleton. Considered one of the best push athletes in the sport throughout his international career, the 32-year-old Langton had not competed for the U.S. since the Sochi Games more than 19 months ago. He took last season off and left the window open for a potential return to chase a third Olympic spot, but decided in recent weeks his time in a sled was over. "Competing for Team USA will forever be one of the most memorable times in my life and I will forever be grateful for that opportunity," Langton said. "As much as I love the sport of bobsled, competing with my teammates against the world's best, and as hard as this decision has been, I know that I'm making the right one."



In this Sept. 30, 2013, file photo, bobsledder Steven Langton poses for a portrait at the 2013 Team USA Media Summit in Park City, Utah. **Associated Press**

## Los Angeles Angels sign veteran catcher Geovany Soto

**ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) —** Free-agent catcher Geovany Soto and the Los Angeles Angels have agreed to a one-year contract. The team announced the move Tuesday night, one day after losing catcher Chris Iannetta to the Seattle Mariners in free agency. Soto has played for four teams in 11 major league seasons. The former Chicago Cubs backstop spent last season on the other side of town with the White Sox, batting .219 with nine homers and 21 RBIs in 78 games. A solid defender, Soto also has played for Texas and Oakland. He was the NL Rookie of the Year and an All-Star in 2008 with the Cubs.



In this Sunday, May 3, 2015 file photo, Chicago White Sox catcher Geovany Soto gestures to the pitcher during the eighth inning a baseball game against the Minnesota Twins in Minneapolis. **Associated Press**

Soto will team with Carlos Perez behind the plate for Los Angeles. Perez shared the job last season with

Iannetta, whose offensive production plummeted in his fourth season with the Angels. □

Langton is a former winner of the world push championship.

A native of Melrose, Massachusetts, Langton went to Northeastern where he competed in track and field. He saw bobsledding in the 2006 Olympics and tried the sport for the first time a year later after sending an email to longtime U.S. bobsled pilot Steven Holcomb asking how to get started.

Eventually, Holcomb and Langton were paired and became dominant — winning nearly two dozen World Cup medals together and thriving at the sport's biggest events. They won the 2012 world two-man championship together, Langton was also in Holcomb's four-man sled that won the world title that same year, and two years later at Sochi they combined to end a 62-year American Olympic drought in two-man by winning bronze.

"He's worked harder than

anybody," Holcomb said. "To be able to get him on the podium, that was a big goal of mine personally."

Langton was enormously popular among sliders around the world. A pair of U.S. teammates made a video — "Push Track Hero," they called it — highlighting his workout regimen that including squatting more than 500 pounds and pulling off 62-inch standing box jumps.

"Steve Langton made an immediate impact on the team," said USA Bobsled and Skeleton Chief Executive Officer Darrin Steele. "His work ethic and discipline rubbed off on the other athletes and made everyone better. He is also a heck of a nice guy. I have no doubt that he'll find success in the next chapter of his life as well."

The U.S. bobsled team, with no returning Olympians on its push-athlete roster, opens World Cup competition for the season Friday in Germany. □



# Why government and tech can't agree about encryption

**BREE FOWLER**  
**TAMI ABDOLLAH**  
**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Your phone is getting better and better at protecting your privacy. But Uncle Sam isn't totally comfortable with that, because it's also complicating the work of tracking criminals and potential national-security threats.

For decades, tech companies have steadily expanded the use of encryption — a data-scrambling technology that shields information from prying eyes, whether it's sent over the Internet or stored on phones and computers. For almost as long, police and intelligence agencies have sought to poke holes in the security technology, which can thwart investigators even when they have a legal warrant for, say, possibly incriminating text messages stored on a phone.

The authorities haven't fared well; strong encryption now keeps strangers out of everything from your iMessages to app data stored on the latest Android phones. But in the wake of the Paris attacks, U.S. officials are again pushing for limits on encryption, even though there's still no evidence the extremists used it to safeguard their communications.

While various experts are exploring ways of resolving the impasse, none are making much headway. For now, the status quo favors civil libertarians and the tech industry, although that could change quickly — for instance, should another attack lead to mass U.S. casualties. Such a scenario could stampede Congress into passing hasty and potentially counterproductive restrictions on encryption.

"There are completely reasonable concerns on both sides," said Yeshiva University law professor Deborah Pearlstein. The aftermath of an attack, however, "is the least practical time to have a rational discussion about these issues."

Encryption plays a little heralded, yet crucial role in the modern economy and daily life. It protects everything from corporate secrets to the credit-card numbers of online shoppers to the communications of democracy advocates fighting totalitarian regimes.

At the same time, recent decisions by Apple and Google to encrypt smartphone data by default have rankled law enforcement officials, who complain of growing difficulty in getting access to the data they feel they need to build criminal cases and prevent at-

tacks. For months, the Obama administration — which has steered away from legislative restrictions on encryption — has been in talks with technology companies to brainstorm ways of giving investigators legal access to encrypted information.

But technology experts and their allies say there's no way to grant law enforcement such access without making everyone more vulnerable to cybercriminals and identity thieves. "It would put American bank accounts and their health records, and their phones, at a huge risk to hackers

in the cloud — for instance, on Apple's iCloud service or Google's Drive — is also often available to investigators with search warrants. (Apple and Google encrypt that data, but also hold the keys.)

Some security experts suggest that should be enough. Michael Moore, chief technology officer and co-founder of the Baltimore, Maryland-based data security firm Terbitium Labs, noted that police have managed to take down online criminals even without shortcuts to encryption. He pointed to the 2013 take down of Silk Road, a massive online drug bazaar that

ney's office, for instance, recently called for a federal law that would require smartphone companies to sell phones they could unlock for government searches — in essence, forcing them to hold the keys to user data.

In a report on the subject, the office called its suggestion a "limited proposal" that would only apply to data stored on smartphones and restrict searches to devices that authorities had already seized. Privacy advocates and tech companies aren't sold, saying it would weaken security for phones that are already too vulnerable



In this July 30, 2014, file photo, Silicon Valley pioneer and Silent Circle co-founder Jon Callas holds up Blackphone with encryption apps displayed on it at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View, Calif.

Associated Press

and foreign criminals and spies, while at the same time doing little or nothing to stop terrorists," Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., said in an interview Monday.

Lawmakers on the U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence remain on what they call an "exploratory" search for options that might expand access for law enforcement, although they're not necessarily looking at new legislation.

The FBI and police have other options even if they can't read encrypted files and messages. So-called metadata — basically, a record of everyone an individual contacts via phone, email or text message — isn't encrypted, and service providers will make it available when served with subpoenas. Data stored on remote computers

operated on the "dark Web," essentially the underworld of the Internet.

"The way they figured that out was through good old-fashioned police work, not by breaking cryptography," Moore said. "I don't think there's a shortcut to good police work in that regard."

Others argue that the very notion of "compromise" makes no sense where encryption is concerned. "Encryption fundamentally is about math," said Mike McNerney, a fellow on the Truman National Security Project and a former cyber policy adviser to the Secretary of Defense. "How do you compromise on math?" He calls the idea of backdoors "silly." Some in law enforcement have compromise ideas of their own. The Manhattan District Attor-

to attack. Marcus Thomas, the chief technology officer at Subsentio and former assistant director of the FBI's operational technology division, argued that it's too late to turn back the clock on strong encryption, putting law enforcement in a "race against time" to obtain investigatory data whenever and wherever it can. But he urged security experts to find ways to help out investigators as they design next-generation encryption systems. The idea of allowing law enforcement secure access to encrypted information doesn't faze Nathan Cardozo, a staff attorney for the San Francisco-based Electronic Frontier Foundation, provided a warrant is involved. Unfortunately, he says, cryptographers agree that the prospect is a "pure fantasy." □



# Wall Street wobbles into Thanksgiving sideways

**MARLEY JAY**  
**AP Markets Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Stocks wobbled on Wednesday and finished little changed before the Thanksgiving holiday in the U.S.

The market was positive for most of the day, but its gains dissipated in the final minutes of trading. Last week the markets made their biggest weekly jump of 2015, but the indexes have hardly budged this week.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 1.20 points to 17,813.39, while the Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 0.27 points to 2,088.87. The Nasdaq composite index picked up 13.33 points, or 0.3 percent, to 5,116.14.

U.S. markets will be closed Thursday for Thanksgiving. They will reopen Friday but will close at 1 p.m. Eastern.

A rebound by drugmakers Pfizer and Allergan boosted the health care sector, while consumer stocks like e-commerce giant Amazon.com and home retailer Home Depot rose in the last trading day before Black Friday unofficially kicks off the holiday shopping period.

Pfizer rose 90 cents, or 2.8 percent, to \$32.87 and Irish counterpart Allergan added \$8.83, or 2.8 percent, to \$320.26. On Monday the two drugmakers said they would combine in a deal valued at about \$155 billion. Pfizer shares fell a combined 10 percent Monday and Tuesday, and Allergan shares also slipped after the deal was announced. However the stock is up 12 percent since late October, when the companies confirmed they were in talks.

Agricultural equipment maker Deere rose after its

fiscal fourth-quarter results and projections for the current fiscal year were better than analysts expected. While sales of tractors and

The U.S. government said crude oil stockpiles rose last week. They are at their highest levels in at least 80 years.

Spending on long-lasting manufactured goods improved in October after two months of declines. A measure of business invest-



**Santa Claus, from the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, visits the trading floor of the New York Stock Exchange before the opening bell, Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2015.**

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

bulldozers and other machinery have dropped, Deere has slashed its costs. The stock rose \$3.66, or 4.8 percent, to \$80.

Hewlett-Packard reported earnings for the final time Tuesday night, weeks after the tech giant formally split into two separate companies. HP, which inherited the parent company's PC, printer and commercial software business, sank \$2, or 13.7 percent, to \$12.64 as its sales weakened. Hewlett Packard Enterprise gained 43 cents, or 3.1 percent, to \$14.12. Sales of hardware for data centers, including servers and networking devices, improved.

Energy stocks, which surged Tuesday, gave back some of their gains even though the price of oil increased slightly.

NRG Energy lost 44 cents, or 3.5 percent, to \$12.18. ConocoPhillips fell 94 cents, or 1.7 percent, to \$54.38.

The price of U.S. crude rose 17 cents, or 0.4 percent, to \$43.04 a barrel in New York. Brent crude, a benchmark for international oils, picked up five cents to \$46.17 a barrel in London.

Wholesale gasoline rose 0.6 cents to \$1.396 a gallon. Heating oil inched up 0.3 cents to \$1.403 a gallon. Natural gas rose 0.6 cents to \$2.206 per 1,000 cubic feet.

The Commerce Department said consumer spending inched up 0.1 percent in October, the second small gain in a row. Despite weak spending in September and October, economists think spending will keep growing because the labor market is strong.

ment improved by the biggest amount since July. Brad Sorensen, director of market and sector research for Charles Schwab, said there were no big surprises in the economic reports. Most were a bit better than expected, and wages and compensation for workers appear to be rising. "Both of those things play into the Fed being comfortable raising interest rates next month," he said. Most experts think the Federal Reserve will begin raising its key interest rate at its mid-December meeting. That rate has been near zero since 2008.

Sorensen said he thinks tech stocks will do well over the next few months as consumers continue to spend on electronics and businesses invest more in technology. □

## Applications for US unemployment aid benefits fall to 260K

**CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER**  
**AP Economics Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The number of people seeking U.S. unemployment aid dropped sharply last week, the Labor Department said Wednesday, the latest sign that businesses are cutting few jobs.

**THE NUMBERS:** Weekly applications for jobless benefits dropped 12,000 last week to a seasonally adjusted 260,000. That is not far from the four-decade low of 255,000 reached in July. The four-week average, a less volatile measure, was unchanged at 271,000.

The number of people that are receiving benefits rose 34,000 to 2.2 million.

**THE TAKEAWAY:** Applications are a proxy for layoffs, so last week's drop is a sign that companies are cutting few jobs.

**KEY DRIVERS:** Steady job gains over the past three years have put more Americans back to work and there are early signs that wages are rising. That is lifting consumer spending and boosting growth. The strong dollar and slower overseas growth have reduced corporate profits but so far there is no sign companies are responding by cutting workers.

**BIG PICTURE:** The low level of applications has coincided with solid hiring. Employers added 271,000 jobs in October, the largest monthly gain this year. The unemployment rate fell to 5 percent from 5.1 percent in the previous month. Employers have added an average of 206,000 jobs a month this year, enough to lower the unemployment rate over time.

There have also been signs that average pay is finally picking up after roughly six years of sluggish growth. Wages and salaries rose 0.6 percent in October, the Commerce Department said Wednesday, the largest gain since May.

In the July-September quarter, wages and salaries grew at a 5.4 percent annual rate from the previous quarter. □

## Turing reneges on drug price cut, rival's sells well

**LINDA A. JOHNSON**  
**AP Health Writer**

**TRENTON, N.J. (AP)** — After weeks of criticism from patients, doctors and even other drugmakers for hiking a life-saving medicine's price more than fifty-fold, Turing Pharmaceuticals is

reneging on its pledge to cut the \$750-per-pill price. Instead, the small biotech company says it's reducing the price for hospitals by up to 50 percent for its Daraprim, which treats a rare parasitic infection that mainly strikes pregnant

women and HIV patients. The 62-year-old drug had no competition until a furor over the gigantic price hike erupted, triggering multiple government investigations.

Then a pharmacy that compounds prescription

drugs for individual patients stepped in and started selling a capsule version for 99 cents. Imprimis Pharmaceuticals says orders are pouring in from doctors and it says it has dispensed more than 2,500 capsules in barely a month. □



# Yahoo's CEO is running out of time to turn things around

**MICHAEL LIEDTKE**

**Associated Press**

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —**

Marissa Mayer's nearly four-year attempt to turn around Yahoo needs a turnaround itself, repeating a pattern of futility that has hobbled one of the Internet's best-known companies for the past decade. Like her predecessors as Yahoo CEO, Mayer has been unable to snap the company out of a financial funk despite spending billions on acquisitions and new projects. Yahoo's stock has sunk by 35 percent so far this year as investors' frustration with the follies have mounted, spurring calls for her replacement.

"This is like an 'emperor has no clothes' situation," says Eric Jackson, a Yahoo shareholder and managing director of the New York hedge fund Ader Investment Management. "The company and the shareholders would be better served with her leaving."

Jackson, though perhaps Mayer's most outspoken critic, isn't alone.

After conferring with investors, SunTrust analyst Robert Peck recently wrote a letter to Yahoo's board recommending that the directors consider firing Mayer. Activist investor Jeffrey Smith of hedge fund Starboard Value is urging Mayer to abandon a spin-off of the Yahoo's most valuable asset — a \$30 billion stake in Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba Group — and sell the company's Internet business instead.

If Mayer continues down her current course, Smith is threatening to lead a shareholder mutiny aimed at overthrowing Yahoo's board next year — a rebellion that, if successful, could lead to her ouster.

Yahoo's own employees seem dispirited as well. Mayer's approval rating among those who posted on the employer-review website Glassdoor.com has fallen to 73 percent from 99 percent after her July 2012 hiring.



**Yahoo President and CEO Marissa Mayer speaks in Las Vegas. Mayer's nearly four-year attempt to turn around Yahoo needs a turnaround itself, repeating a pattern of futility that has hobbled one of the Internet's best-known companies for the past decade. (AP Photo/Julie Jacobson)**

At least a dozen members of Yahoo's management team have left in the past year. The departures have included two of Mayer's top lieutenants, former marketing and media chief Kathy Savitt and former development and acquisitions chief Jacqueline Reses.

Yahoo declined to comment for this article.

Mayer has repeatedly expressed confidence that Yahoo is heading in the right direction, most recently during her October review of the company's disappointing quarterly performance. "I have very aggressive expectations for Yahoo's core business," she said. "We have the right talent, the right strategy, and the right assets to drive long-term sustainable growth for our investors."

Yahoo's revenue fell 8

percent from the previous year after subtracting the company's advertising commissions, its steepest decline since Mayer became CEO. It's likely to fare even worse in the October-December quarter, given that that company expects net revenue to drop by about 20 percent. Now Mayer is drawing up plans for another major shake-up, one likely to eliminate hundreds of jobs as Yahoo sharpens its focus on "fewer products with higher quality," as she said in October. Mayer promised more details in January.

It wasn't supposed to get this bleak with Mayer at the helm. She came to Yahoo as a widely respected technology executive who had helped build Google into the Internet's most powerful company while

repeatedly outmaneuvering Yahoo with products that attracted more traffic and advertising.

Mayer's arrival was supposed to herald a promising new era after the disheartening downfalls of the four CEOs that preceded her. Those executives — Terry Semel, Jerry Yang, Carol Bartz and Scott Thompson — either resigned or were dumped when it became apparent that they couldn't revive the growth that made Yahoo one of the Internet's biggest successes during the dot-com boom of the 1990s.

Things started well. Mayer bought dozens of startups to bring in more engineering expertise in mobile devices and overhauled Yahoo's apps for weather, sports, Flickr and email. She made big splashes by hir-

ing former NBC News anchor Katie Couric to handle online video reports and acquired the trendy blogging service Tumblr for \$1.1 billion.

The moves haven't really paid off, although Mayer continues to boast about Yahoo's progress in the important mobile and video markets. None of Yahoo's services rank among the top 50 free apps in Apple's store, and the company's expansion into original video programming resulted in a \$42 million charge to account for the duds.

Investors are still awaiting proof that that Tumblr or any other of Mayer's acquisitions will be worth what Yahoo paid.

"Across all dimensions, her efforts haven't delivered the results that people might have expected," says S&P Capital IQ analyst Scott Kessler.

At one point in Mayer's tenure, Yahoo's stock had more than tripled from where it stood when she took over. The gains, though, were almost entirely tied to Yahoo's large stake in Alibaba, which it acquired in a \$1 billion deal negotiated a decade ago. That holding — in retrospect, Yahoo's best investment ever — soared in value as Alibaba's e-commerce bazaar boomed, prompting investors to snap up Yahoo shares in order to profit while Alibaba was still privately held. □

## Deere's profit tops forecasts even as sales fall

**MOLINE, Ill. (AP) —** Even though sales of its green tractors, bulldozers and other equipment fell sharply, Deere & Co. reported better-than-expected fourth-quarter earnings as it cut costs.

The Moline, Illinois-based company also posted an earnings outlook for the year that surpassed Wall Street expectations. Its shares rose more than 4 percent in afternoon trading Wednesday.

Deere has been hurt by weak commodity prices

which have made farmers less likely to buy new equipment. And falling oil prices has hurt sales of its construction equipment.

Sales of its agriculture equipment, which include tractors, fell 25 percent in the quarter from a year ago. Sales of its construction equipment fell 32 percent in the period from a year ago.

For the fiscal year 2016, the company expects earnings of about \$1.4 billion, above the \$1.33 billion analysts expected, accord-

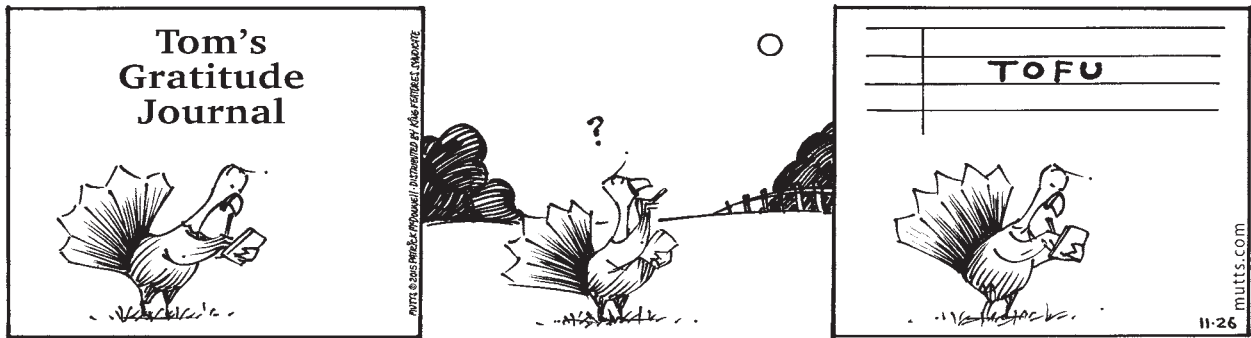
ing to FactSet. Deere said it expects sales of its equipment to fall 7 percent in fiscal 2016, compared with the year before.

For the quarter ending Oct. 31, it reported fiscal fourth-quarter net income of \$351.2 million, or \$1.08 per share. The results surpassed Wall Street expectations. The average estimate of 10 analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research was for earnings of 74 cents per share. Deere said it cut costs by 21 percent to \$6.26 billion. The agricultur-

al equipment manufacturer posted revenue of \$5.93 billion in the period, which fell short of Street forecasts. Five analysts surveyed by Zacks expected \$6.13 billion. For the year, the company reported profit of \$1.94 billion, or \$5.77 per share. Revenue was reported as \$25.78 billion. Shares of Deere rose \$3.38, or 4.4 percent, to \$79.72 in afternoon trading Wednesday. Deere shares have dropped about 10 percent since the beginning of the year. □



Mutts



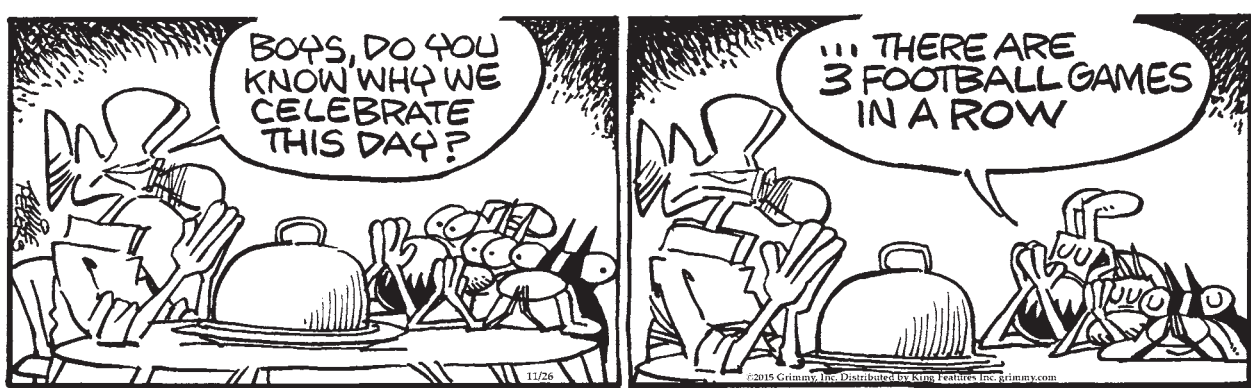
6 Chix



Blondie



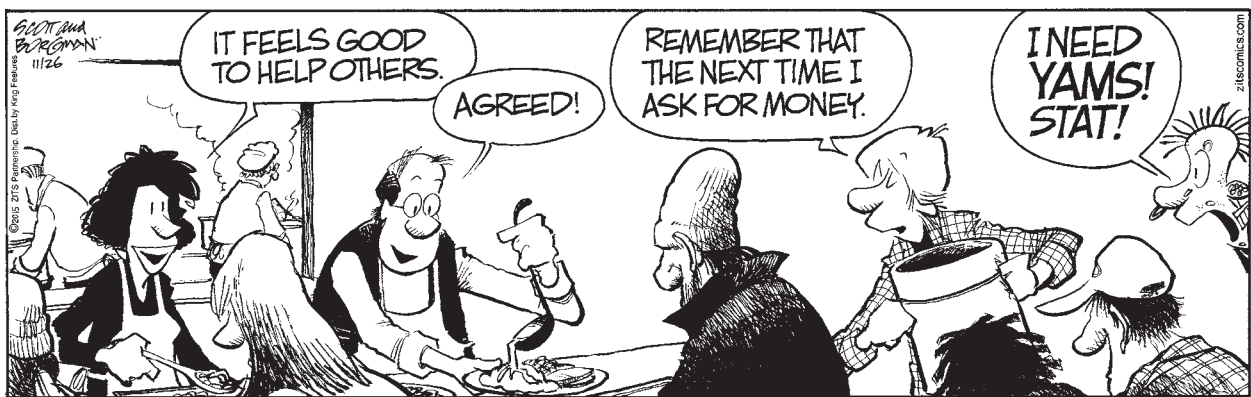
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

4				7			6
	9			4		3	
		1			8		
2			1	8			
	8					6	
			9	2			4
		7			5		
	4			9		7	
3			5				2

Difficulty Level ★★★ 11/26

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

7	9	2	3	5	1	4	8	6
4	5	6	7	8	2	9	1	3
3	8	1	9	4	6	5	2	7
5	2	8	1	9	7	6	3	4
1	4	3	6	2	5	7	9	8
6	7	9	4	3	8	1	5	2
8	1	4	2	6	9	3	7	5
2	3	7	5	1	4	8	6	9
9	6	5	8	7	3	2	4	1

ACROSS

- 1 Road clearer after a snowfall  
5 Highest room in the house  
10 Q-tip, for one  
14 Corn-exporting state  
15 Napped leather  
16 Candy \_\_; Yuletide sweet  
17 Long hike  
18 Nation of over 1 billion people  
19 Finds a sum  
20 Book supplements  
22 Fish hawks  
24 Enemy  
25 \_\_ wool; scouring pad  
26 Deception  
29 Dads  
30 Preserves  
34 British noble  
35 Portable bed  
36 Tush  
37 Highest heart  
38 Loud enough to be heard  
40 \_\_ polloi; ordinary folks  
41 In one's second childhood  
43 Long-tailed rodent  
44 Jailbird's home  
45 Hobo  
46 Split \_\_ soup  
47 Untrue  
48 Donahue and Mickelson  
50 Overalls part  
51 New, improved version  
54 Nutcase  
58 Happiness  
59 Very willing  
61 City in Nevada  
62 Pinky & Spike  
63 From the East  
64 Sups  
65 Tibetan oxen  
66 Loans  
67 Horse's gait

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20			21			22		23				
			24			25						
26	27	28		29			30		31	32	33	
34				35			36					
37			38			39			40			
41		42				43			44			
45					46			47				
			48	49			50					
51	52	53				54			55	56	57	
58				59	60				61			
62				63					64			
65				66					67			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 11/26/15

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

HOMES	SPAM	SHOP
AGENT	TONY	POOL
TRALA	INTO	OUZO
SENATORS	POISED	
CUPS	SINLESS	
STREET	SPACE	
TIE	SEWER	ERECT
ALSO	DALES	SOLE
GETUP	GLEAM	NUN
TRIES	BASSET	
PARDONS	GONE	
SLOOPS	UNTANGLE	
YOYO	ITSA	GOOEY
CHAR	DIET	EROSE
HALS	ENDS	RAFTS

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DOWN

- 1 Stuffed bread  
2 Actor Jack \_\_  
3 Had debts  
4 Unable to sleep  
5 \_\_ from; in addition to  
6 Fish in a can  
7 Actor Knight  
8 Boneheads  
9 Stop  
10 Shade of red  
11 Walk in ankle-deep water  
12 Singer Williams  
13 Mrs. Truman  
21 Silent assent  
23 Tea variety  
25 Contemptuous writings  
26 Banquet  
27 Jeff Gordon or Richard Petty  
28 Amphitheater  
29 Pea casing  
31 Lucy's landlady  
32 Cool spots in summertime  
33 Grin  
35 Actor's signal  
36 Sub alternative  
38 Greek letter  
39 Pasture cry  
42 Make a hit with  
44 Nightclub  
46 Make content  
47 Swim \_\_; diver's flipper  
49 Just right  
50 Sings  
51 Hideous  
52 Tearful request  
53 Nerd  
54 Pencil's core  
55 Shred  
56 5 \_\_ 25 is 5  
57 Expense  
60 \_\_ and tonic



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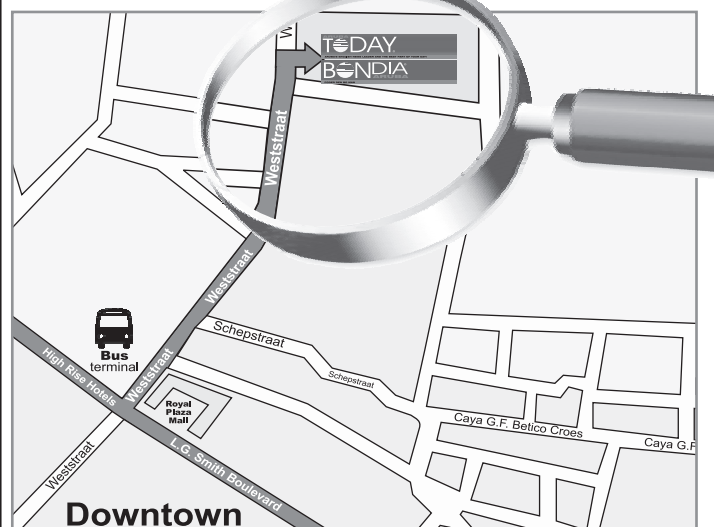
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wk 48 or 49	room 551	\$5,500
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wk 49	542 room	\$3,000
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## UN weather agency: It's record hot out there this year

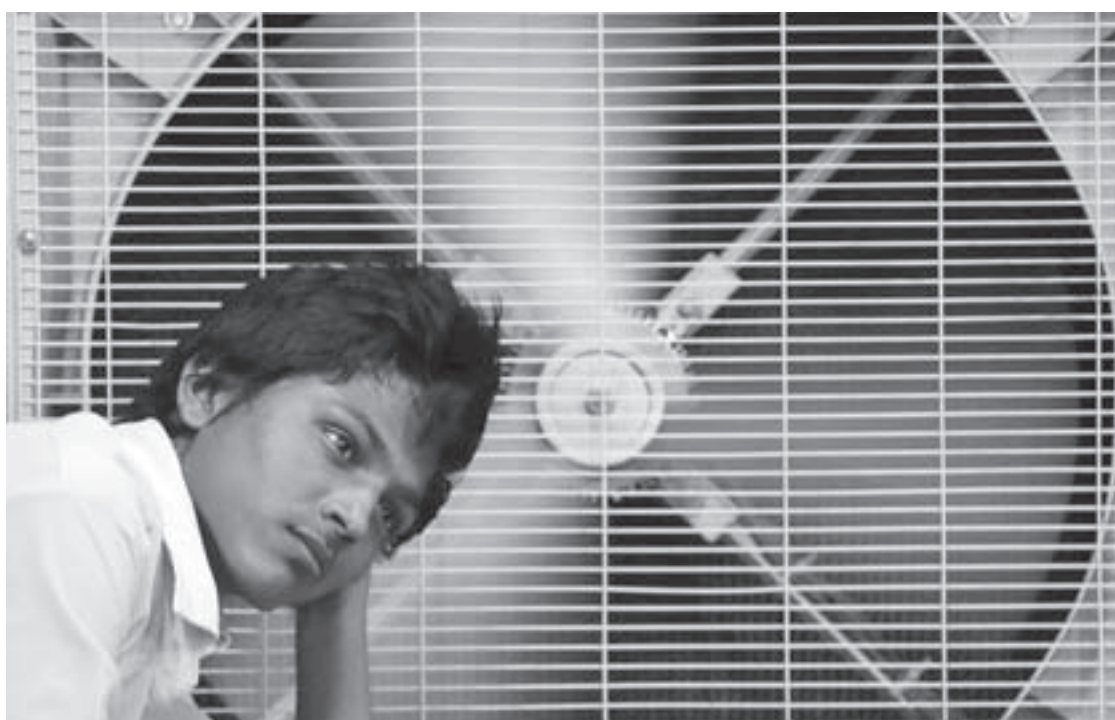
**SETH BORENSTEIN**  
AP Science Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Because of man-made global warming and a strong El Nino, Earth's wild weather this year is bursting the annual heat record, the World Meteorological Organization announced on Wednesday.

The United Nations weather agency's early report on 2015 says it is the hottest year on record, surpassing last year's record heat. It made the proclamation without waiting for the end of the year because it has been so extraordinarily hot and is forecast to stay that way.

The report comes the week before more than 100 world leaders assemble in Paris to try to negotiate an agreement to fight climate change.

"We have really broken records almost everywhere," the agency's secretary-general, Michel Jarraud, said at a press conference in Geneva. "Remember



In this May 31, 2015 file photo, an Indian man rests in front of an air cooler to cool himself on a hot summer day in Hyderabad, in the southern Indian state of Telangana. **Associated Press**

climate change is not only about temperature ... but a significant impact of climate change is on extreme events."

The report is not surprising: Scientists at the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and elsewhere already

were saying that 2015 likely would be the hottest. The U.N. agency, NOAA, NASA and Japan's weather agency all say 2014 is the current record hot year with a global temperature of 14.57 degrees Celsius, or 58.23 degrees F.

"I would call it certain,"

NOAA's chief climate monitor, Deke Arndt, said on Tuesday. "Something game-changing massive would have to happen for it not to be a record."

Records go back to 1880. Jarraud also said it is likely that the world has now warmed by 1 degree Cel-

sus, or 1.8 degrees Fahrenheit, over pre-industrial times. That's a symbolic milestone: International leaders have set a goal of keeping global warming within 2 degrees C, or 3.6 F, of pre-industrial times.

"There is urgency because we already have 1 degree behind us and at the rate that the emissions are increasing, there is not much flexibility," Jarraud said. "But it is still possible to do it, provided there is a strong decision in Paris." Gavin Schmidt, head of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies called the U.N. report a fair summary, adding: "2015 is going to be exceptional in many ways." The world is warming because of heat-trapping gases that come from the burning of coal, oil and gas. On top of that, El Nino, a naturally occurring climate event that starts with warm water in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific, makes the world even warmer, scientists say. □

## Reusable rocket: In a first, booster returns safely to Earth

**MALCOLM RITTER**  
AP Science Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A private space company announced Tuesday that it had landed a rocket upright and gently enough to be used again, a milestone in commercial aeronautics. Reusing rockets, rather than discarding them, would be a big step toward making space flight less expensive.

The achievement produced "the rarest of beasts: a used rocket," Jeff Bezos, founder of the company Blue Origin, said in a statement. He is the CEO of

Amazon.com Inc.

Another private company, SpaceX, has tried to land boosters upright on a barge in the ocean but so far has failed. It has recorded soft landings on the ground by rockets that flew less than a mile high, an altitude far lower than what the new test achieved. Blue Origin said the unmanned flight took place Monday morning at its site in Van Horn in West Texas. The secretive company, based in Kent, Washington, did not invite reporters to attend. Its first test flight happened in April. Its New Shepard

vehicle consists of a capsule that is designed to take people into space for suborbital flights someday, and a booster. In Monday's flight, the booster soared about 62 miles high and released the capsule, which parachuted to the ground. After the separation, the booster began falling back to Earth. It slowed its descent by firing its engine, starting at about 4,900 feet above ground. It was descending at just 4.4 mph when it touched down at the launch site, still standing up, the company said. "It's really a major step for-



In this photo provided by Blue Origin taken on Monday, Nov. 23, 2015, an unmanned Blue Origin booster rocket sits after landing in Van Horn, West Texas. **Associated Press**

ward toward reusability," John M. Logsdon, professor emeritus at the George Washington University's Space Policy Institute, said in an interview. Although NASA space shuttles were

also reusable after returning to Earth safely, they were far more expensive than rockets, he noted. "The goal here is low-cost reusability," Logsdon said. □



# Showtime documentary collects all of the former CIA chiefs

DAVID BAUDER

AP Television Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — After making a documentary about presidential chiefs of staff two years ago, filmmaker Jules Naudet joked about focusing on another important government job where it would seem next to impossible to get interview subjects to speak candidly, if at all.

His new subject? Former directors of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Much to the surprise of Naudet and fellow producers, former CIA chiefs and other key officials agreed to participate. At a time the agency's work seems more important than ever, they talk bluntly about terror threats, drone strikes, secret interrogation sites and torture for a documentary that premieres on Showtime on Saturday at 9 p.m. ET.

The opening of "The Spymasters: CIA in the Crosshairs" illustrates the stakes involved. Former Obama administration director Leon Panetta describes wrestling with decision to order a drone strike on a man suspected of planning the deaths of two CIA agents in an attack dramatized in the movie "Zero Dark Thirty." He knew that women and children would also die if the drone hit its mark. The segment humanizes the job from the start.

"People don't appreciate the responsibilities that the CIA directors have had, especially now," said Susan Zirinsky, CBS News veteran and executive producer. "These are life and death decisions that they have on their hands. I think that gets lost in what people think the CIA is."

Panetta freely acknowledges a drone program that the CIA doesn't officially talk about. During the film, some former CIA officials debate the morality and effectiveness of drone killings, while others won't touch the subject. Former acting director Michael Morell, now a CBS analyst, expresses surprise on camera to learn that

others discussed signature strikes.

"These are grown-ups," said Chris Whipple, who interviews each of the directors on camera. "No one tells Bob Gates and Leon Panetta what they can say, which is not to say that they are going to be cavalier."

Former President George H.W. Bush, a CIA director in the Ford administration, was the first interview, and his participation seemed to encourage others.

George Tenet was the last to agree. He's arguably the most important, since his tenure (1997-2004) encompassed the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist strikes, claims that Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction and opening of secret sites to interrogate suspected terrorists.

"I think he came for history," Whipple said.

Tenet tells of being so alarmed about intelligence indicating an imminent al-Qaida attack that he called the White House on July 10, 2001, and insisted upon coming over immediately for a meeting. "Viewers can judge whether the White House ignored those warnings or not," Whipple said.

Former agency official Cofer Black said in the film that he gets angry when people describe those attacks as an intelligence failure. "We knew this was coming," he said.

Interrogation techniques that some judged as torture — the subject of a scathing Senate Intelligence Committee report a year ago — was a debate topic within the CIA, too. Current director John Brennan expresses regret over not being more vocal about his objections and said he would refuse to waterboard a detainee even if ordered by the president.

Tenet, for his part, said, "we didn't have time to become their best friends." "I still look at the ceiling at night about a lot of things," Tenet says in the documentary, "and I'll keep them to myself forever."

Each of the directors is at the center of the constant tension between protecting the nation's liberties and ideals while also trying to protect the nation from harm.

To a person, all the wives of the former directors say they could see the toll that the job took on their husbands, who every day learn about horrible things that people want to do to the country. Senior counterterrorism official Gina Bennett talks about how the work negatively affected her home life.

"They feel that they are the soldiers on the front lines and everyone in the country hates them or mistrusts them or thinks that they are out to do the most horrible things," said Gedeon



In this image released by Showtime, former CIA director Leon Panetta poses for a photo for the Showtime documentary "The Spymasters - CIA in the Crosshairs," premiering Saturday at 9 p.m. Associated Press

Naudet, Jules' brother and filmmaker partner. "It is extremely dangerous to their psyches, to a point where they even believe that

what they say won't matter."

Don't dismiss ego as a motivation for participating in the film, either. □








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# Redmayne, Hooper reunite for transgender tale 'Danish Girl'

**JAKE COYLE**

**AP Film Writer**

**TORONTO (AP)** — In a pivotal scene early in Tom Hooper's "The Danish Girl," the 1920s Copenhagen painter Einar Wegener, as played by Eddie Redmayne, sits in for a portrait his wife Gerda (Alicia Vikander) is painting of a ballerina. Breathlessly caressing the stockings and slippers, something stirs in Einar.

It's a moment that cues a coming transformation: Einar will gradually become a woman, finally undergoing one of the earliest known sex reassignment surgeries. Einar becomes Lili Elbe, a celebrated trans pioneer. "I didn't want it to be an epiphany," says Redmayne of the scene. "It felt like she had been born, and society and herself had encased herself in this



In this Oct. 25, 2015 file photo, British director Tom Hooper, right, and British actor Eddie Redmayne pose for a portrait in promotion for "The Danish Girl" in London. **Associated Press**

masculine exoskeleton. The important thing for me was the film should see that unraveling."

Redmayne, the best-actor Oscar winner earlier this year for his Stephen Hawking in "The Theory of Everything," has proven to be an immaculately technical actor and an expert of metamorphosis. A year after charting Hawking's physical degeneration, his conversion from Einar to Lili in "The Danish Girl" again has the 33-year-old British actor being hailed as a likely Academy Award nominee.

It's the third film together for Hooper ("The King's Speech") and Redmayne, who had a small part in the director's "Elizabeth: The Golden Age" (2007) where the queen sentences him to death. "I remember in that moment thinking: I need to find a leading role for Eddie," Hooper says.

It was while filming 2012's "Les Misérables," in which Redmayne played the tender revolutionary Marius, that the two began plotting "The Danish Girl," based on David Ebershoff's novel of the true-life events. On the film's Paris barracks, Hooper slipped Redmayne Lucinda Coxon's script.

"Tom just said: Will you have a read of this?" Redmayne says.

It was the first role Redmayne was offered without an audition. When Redmayne and Hooper convened for an interview at the Toronto International Film Festival, it was also their first time sitting together for an interview. At times, their combined Britishness made for extreme humility.

"The dream to get to play interesting and in both those cases extraordinary people, it does not come along," says Redmayne of Hawking and Elbe. "And I also have no question: I don't think it will come along again. I realize that I've been very lucky in a couple years to play two formidable people."

Reviews for "The Danish Girl," painterly and stately, have singled out Redmayne's performance, which caps what the actor calls a "head-spinning" period in his life. He wed Hanna Bagshawe last December, and, two days after winning the Oscar, was back on set making "The Danish Girl," still groggy from the partying.

"My instinct was Eddie from the beginning," Hooper says. "I was truly open to any route. I know in a previous incarnation there had been talk of a woman playing the role, which is also equally valid because you're saying Lili

is a woman underneath." Some, though, have questioned casting a man as a transgender woman. Sean Baker's "Tangerine," released earlier this year, by contrast, has drawn raves for its transgender actresses, Kitana Kiki Rodriguez and Mya Taylor.

"There's something in Ed that's drawn to the feminine, maybe," says Hooper of Redmayne, who also played Viola in a stage production of "Twelfth Night." "In the movie, Lili presents as Einar for two-thirds of it and the transition is quite late, so that also fed into my thinking."

"The Danish Girl" is nevertheless an outlier. Earlier this year, the USC Annenberg School of Communication and Journalism studied the 100 top-grossing films of 2014 and found zero transgender characters.

"There is a serious problem not only in our industry but within many industries of trans men and trans women and discrimination in the workplace," Redmayne says. "In the United States, you can be fired in 32 states for being trans."

"When I first thought of doing the movie, it was considered a hard film to finance," Hooper says. "I must admit there were people around me who were happy to tell me I shouldn't do the film."

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2D VERSION  
MON-FRI 6:20  
SAT, SUN & HOL 6:20

**THE GOOD DINOSAUR**  
JEFFREY WRIGHT | FRANCES MCDORMAND  
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES  
3D VERSION  
MON-THURS 5:15 | 7:30  
FRI 5:15 | 7:30 | 9:45  
SAT 3:00 | 5:15 | 7:30 | 9:45  
SUN & HOL 3:00 | 5:15 | 7:30  
2D VERSION  
MON-THURS 4:10 | 6:25 | 8:40  
FRI 4:10 | 6:25 | 8:40 | 10:55  
SAT 1:55 | 4:10 | 6:25 | 8:40 | 10:55  
SUN & HOL 1:55 | 4:10 | 6:25 | 8:40

**VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN**  
DANIEL RADCLIFFE | JAMES MCAVOY  
MON-THURS 4:30 | 6:55 | 9:20  
FRI 4:30 | 6:55 | 9:20 | 11:45  
SAT 2:05 | 4:30 | 6:55 | 9:20 | 11:45  
SUN & HOL 2:05 | 4:30 | 6:55 | 9:20

**THE 33**  
ANTONIO BANDERAS | RODRIGO SANTORO  
MON-THURS 6:20 | 9:10  
FRI 6:20 | 9:10 | 11:50  
SAT 6:20 | 9:10 | 11:50  
SUN & HOL 6:20 | 9:10

**THE NIGHT BEFORE**  
BRAD PITT | ANGELINA JOLIE  
MON-THURS 4:30 | 7:10 | 9:30  
FRI 4:30 | 7:10 | 9:30 | 11:50  
SAT 2:30 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30 | 11:50  
SUN & HOL 2:30 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30

**ALSO SHOWING!**

**THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY PART 2**  
JENNIFER LAWRENCE | JOSH HUTCHERSON  
MON-FRI 4:35 | 7:30  
SAT 1:50 | 4:35 | 7:30  
SUN & HOL 1:50 | 4:35 | 7:30

**SPECTRE**  
DANIEL CRAIG | CHRISTOPH WALTZ  
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES  
MON-THURS 5:45 | 8:50  
FRI 5:45 | 8:50  
SAT 2:40 | 5:45 | 8:50  
SUN & HOL 2:40 | 5:45 | 8:50

**THE PEANUTS MOVIE**  
KRISTIN CHENOWETH | FRANCESCA CAPALDI  
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FRI 4:10  
SAT 2:00 | 4:10  
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In this May 14, 2014 file photo, Sherri Shepherd attends "A Celebration of Barbara Walters" in New York.

Associated Press

## Court: Sherri Shepherd can't get out of surrogacy contract

MARYCLAIRE DALE

Associated Press

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)** — Television personality and actress Sherri Shepherd has been found legally responsible for a child born to a surrogate she and her ex-husband hired before they divorced, a Pennsylvania appeals court ruled this week in upholding the surrogacy contract.

Shepherd had fought to have the contract voided. The ruling means she must continue paying \$4,100 a month in child support, according to a lawyer for ex-husband Lamar Sally, who is raising the 1-year-old boy in Los Angeles.

"She doesn't want to be part of his life. It's all good," Sally told The Associated Press on Tuesday. "I'm going to be parent enough for the both of us."

Shepherd had roles in several sitcoms and movies and co-hosted ABC's "The View" from 2007 to 2014. Her lawyer did not immediately return a message Tuesday. She had paid more than \$100,000 and Sally another \$5,000 for a suburban Philadelphia surrogate to carry the child conceived through a procedure that used his sperm and a donor egg.

The couple, then living in New Jersey, attended the surrogate's medical appointments until Shepherd had a change of heart in

the second trimester, as her marriage faltered, the court ruling said.

The initial birth certificate listed the surrogate as the mother, prompting California authorities to seek support from her when Sally settled there, according to his lawyer, Tiffany Palmer. Sally is a writer and substitute teacher.

The owner of the surrogacy agency they used praised the decision, which makes Shepherd the legal mother listed on the birth certificate.

"Surrogates don't want to feel that someone could want a baby and then just back out. The surrogate is not the mother," said Melissa B. Brisman, who owns Reproductive Possibilities LLC in Montvale, N.J.

Pennsylvania courts had never ruled on the validity of surrogacy contracts, which some states have refused to uphold, Palmer said.

"It's a tremendous relief to many people," she said.

The ruling Monday upheld an earlier decision from Montgomery County, where the boy was born in August 2014.

"(Shepherd) does not dispute that she freely entered into the gestational carrier contract," the Superior Court ruling said. "Baby S. would not have been born but for (her) actions and express agreement to be the child's legal mother." □

## Rosie O'Donnell relishes criminal role on Fox's drama 'Empire'



This photo provided by Fox shows guest stars Rosie O'Donnell, from left, and Vivica A. Fox with series star Taraji P. Henson in the "Sinned Against" episode of "Empire," airing Wednesday, Nov. 25, 2015, 9:00-10:00 p.m. ET/PT on Fox.

Associated Press

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Rosie O'Donnell was delighted when "Empire" creator Lee Daniels invited her to guest star on the Fox drama, then got a case of nerves.

"I'd watched the performances, and I'm stunned every week because I can't believe the level of acting and the amount of (dialogue) and stories" in each episode, O'Donnell said.

Worried about "not being on my game," she worked with an acting coach before taping.

"I prepared for this like I've never prepared for anything in my career, because I didn't want to disappoint and I understood the pace at which they work," she said.

In the episode airing 9 p.m. EST Wednesday, O'Donnell plays Pepper O'Leary, a tough criminal who shared

a cell for years with Cookie Lyon, played by series star Taraji P. Henson.

Cookie seeks out Pepper to help her find missing family members, including Cookie's son Hakeem (Bryshere Y. Gray). Pepper is living in Philadelphia and back in the "criminal business," O'Donnell said.

She knows "the lowdown about what's going on in Philly" and is in a position to help Cookie, the actress-comedian said.

Playing her first baddie was "liberating," and she was honored that Daniels envisioned her in the role and trusted her to handle it, she said.

Daniels' call came a couple years after O'Donnell bumped into him at a New York theater and complimented him on the 2009 Oscar-winning film "Precious," which Daniels directed.

"I was honored and

shocked and thrilled" when he called about the "Empire" role, O'Donnell said, adding that's she a fan of the show and tweets about it.

Henson was "amazing" to work with, she said.

"It's like dancing with (ballet's Mikhail) Baryshnikov, you have to be on point," O'Donnell said. "She's extraordinarily gifted."

But O'Donnell received her own gracious kudos as well, from series star Gray.

"He said, 'I just want to tell you that I have a lot of respect for who you are and how you use your voice socially,'" O'Donnell recalled. "He said everything you would dream a 20-year-old kid — like the one at home on my couch, who never says that to me — would say to you."

O'Donnell, a former co-host on "The View," appears on ABC Family's drama series "The Fosters." □



# Essentials: Wicked cool stuff, old and new, to do in Boston

**WILLIAM J. KOLE**  
**Associated Press**

**BOSTON (AP)** — No bucket list is complete without at least one trip to Boston, a city that's forever coming up with new ways to entice visitors to return. Sure, there's always Fen-

iconic Boston Marathon. It's a great place to find someone to share a run along the nearby Charles River, or simply to learn more about the rich lore of the 119-year-old marathon, America's most storied footrace. <http://www.bos->

the Rose Kennedy Greenway, one of the nation's premier showcases for unusual open-air art installations. There's abstract sculpture, a labyrinth and more. Coming in spring 2016: the Boston Wax Museum.

a leisurely walk through Boston Common and the adjacent Boston Public Garden, the heart and lungs of the city. You can't truthfully say you've done Boston without following the Freedom Trail, a 2.5-mile route that

Catch a game in season and consider an hour-long walking tour and a selfie atop the ballpark's signature Big Green Monster wall. By now, you'll be ravenous. Head to the North End, a warren of narrow streets lined with Italian restaurants. Slake your thirst with a tour of the Samuel Adams Brewery.

## TIPS

Pack an umbrella: Boston's weather is famously unpredictable. If you're planning to visit in winter, keep in mind that February tends to be the region's snowiest month. (Last winter, Boston got 9 feet of white stuff. Just saying.) Taxis can be expensive and elusive. If you're not into Uber or other ride-sharing services, MBTA public transit — known simply as the T — will get you virtually everywhere, and it's much cheaper. You can buy reloadable CharlieTicket and CharlieCard passes and save a bundle. <http://mbta.com>.

## HANGING OUT

Make like a local and get out of town. No, really. Just across the Charles is Cambridge, home to a certain Ivy League college and its eponymous Harvard Square. Fine, technically it's not Boston, but who'd quibble when it's replete with so many fabulous watering holes and seriously interesting indie bookstores? Pro tip: Don't even try to park the cah in Hahvahd Yahd; just take the T (Red Line.) Visiting in summer? Grab a blanket and some munchies and catch a free open-air concert on Boston's riverside Esplanade park. The city's beloved Boston Pops orchestra has been performing in the outdoor Hatch Shell for decades. End your trip by getting high: Have a drink at Top of the Hub, a bar and restaurant 52 floors above the Back Bay. It offers stunning 360-degree panoramic views of the city that boasts it's the "Hub of the Universe."□



Faneuil Hall, right, appears at night in downtown in Boston. Faneuil Hall is one of the historic sites on Boston's Freedom Trail. (AP Photo/Michael Dwyer)

way Park, the Freedom Trail and those zany duck boat tours. But while you were away, the Cradle of Liberty sprouted some wicked cool new stuff. Here's your guide to Beantown, both on and off the beaten path:

## WHAT'S NEW

If you're a runner or a history buff, or both, you'll be hot to trot for RunBase. Part interactive museum, clubhouse and retail outlet, RunBase opened last spring near the finish line of the

tonrunbase.com Across town on the harbor, check out the renovated giant ocean tank at the New England Aquarium. It got a \$17.8 million remake in 2013, and 52 viewing bays now look out on a coral reef teeming with more than 1,000 fish species. Unleash your inner Cousteau beneath the new reflective ceiling dome, which gives the entire aquarium a shimmering undersea vibe. If you're visiting with kids, this is a must-see. Need some fresh air? Stroll

This won't be just another Madame Tussauds; Brazil-based Dreams Entertainment Group says its U.S. debut venture will feature wax likenesses of influential Bostonians through the ages in politics, sports and entertainment. (Stay tuned.)

## CLASSIC ATTRACTIONS

Non-negotiables: lunch and shopping at Faneuil Hall Marketplace in the heart of downtown, where Samuel Adams and other patriots agitated for rebellion against the British. Ditto

takes in Old North Church, Paul Revere House, Bunker Hill Monument and a dozen other colonial sites:<http://www.thefreedomtrail.org>. A raucous alternative is a splashy ride on a duck boat: a World War II-style amphibious vehicle that rumbles past most of those landmarks. Other must-sees: the highly interactive John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum, devoted to the 35th president and Massachusetts' most favorite son. Or, if high-end retail therapy is your thing, the fashionable salons and boutiques of Newbury Street. For heaven's sake, don't go home without genuflecting before Fenway Park, a shrine which deserves a visit even if the Red Sox inside aren't always worthy.



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